

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,

OF MINNESOTA,

AT ITS FIFTEENTH GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, HELD IN THE
CITY OF ST. PAUL, COMMENCING OCTOBER 22d, A. L. 5867.

FIRST DAY.

At 12 o'clock M., the Most Worshipful the Grand Master opened
a Master's ☐ in ample form.

M. W. C. W. NASH, Grand Master.
R. W. ROBERT STEWART, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. S. R. MERRELL, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. GEO. L. OTIS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. W. S. COMBS, Grand Secretary.
W. T. C. SHAPLEIGH, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. W. T. KITTRIDGE, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. A. RICHARDSON, Grand Tyler.

Prayer by Bro. Dr. S. Y. McMasters.

The Grand Secretary was directed to call the roll of ☐, when
thirty-eight Subordinate ☐ were found duly represented.

The representatives from a constitutional number of ☐ being
present, the Most Worshipful the Grand ☐ of the Ancient and
Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota,
was opened in ample form.

Present—Grand Officers :

M. W. C. W. NASH, Grand Master.
R. W. W. T. RIGBY, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. ROBERT STEWART, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. S. R. MERRELL, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. GEO. L. OTIS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. W. S. COMBS, Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. S. Y. McMASTERS, Grand Chaplain.
W. E. D. B. PORTER, Grand Marshal.
W. T. C. SHAPLEIGH, Grand Standard Bearer.
W. H. D. BROWN, Grand Sword Bearer.
W. J. D. JENNINGS, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. W. T. KITTRIDGE, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. M. W. GETCHELL, as Grand Pursuivant.
W. THEO. FURBER, Senior Grand Steward.
W. P. R. AUSTIN, Junior Grand Steward.
W. A. RICHARDSON, Grand Tyler.

PAST ELECTIVE GRAND OFFICERS.

M.: W.: A. T. C. PIERSON, Past Grand Master.
 R.: W.: L. E. THOMPSON, Past Deputy Grand Master.
 R.: W.: S. E. ADAMS, Past Senior Grand Warden.
 R.: W.: C. H. LINDSLEY, Past Senior Grand Warden.

Prayer by the W.: Grand Chaplain.

On motion of R.: W.: W. T. Rigby,

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing, be invited to take seats in this Grand ☐ during its session.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committee on Credentials:

C. H. Lindsley, I. B. Cummings, and J. S. Norris.

On motion of R.: W.: Charles Stewart, the Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment until 4 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION—4 O'CLOCK; P. M.

The Grand ☐ resumed labor, M.: W.: G.: M.: C. W. Nash presiding.

The Committee on Credentials reported the following delegates from Subordinate ☐, entitled to seats.

St. John's, No. 1—J. N. Castle, Senior Warden.
 E. A. Folsom, proxy for Junior Warden.
 Cataract, No. 2—E. S. Brown, Worshipful Master.
 M. W. Getchell, proxy for Senior Warden.
 G. A. Camp, proxy for Junior Warden.
 St. Paul, No. 3—W. H. Grant, Worshipful Master.
 J. B. Slichter, Senior Warden.
 A. P. Merrill, Junior Warden.
 Hennepin, No. 4—E. A. Groff, Senior Warden.
 Ancient Landmark, No. 5—C. A. Upham, Worshipful Master.
 F. H. Pratt, Senior Warden.
 H. L. Carver, Junior Warden.
 Dakota, No. 7—F. M. Crosby, Worshipful Master.
 S. G. Rathburne, Junior Warden.
 Red Wing, No. 8—S. B. Foot, Worshipful Master.
 Mantorville, No. 11—J. R. Dart, Senior Warden.
 Mankato, No. 12—B. F. Smith, proxy for ☐.
 Wapahasa, No. 14—W. H. Robinson, Senior Warden.
 Monticello, No. 16—Geo. M. Bertram, Senior Warden.
 Hokah, No. 17—S. J. Prentis, Senior Warden.
 Winona, No. 18—I. B. Cummings, Worshipful Master.
 W. G. Dye, Senior Warden.
 Rochester, No. 21—E. C. Cross, Senior Warden.
 S. J. Barlow, Junior Warden.
 North Star, No. 23—Jas. K. Miller, Worshipful Master.
 Jas. Biggerstaff, Senior Warden.
 Wilton, No. 24—W. T. Kittridge, Worshipful Master.
 Western Star, No. 26—H. D. Brown, Worshipful Master.
 Blue Earth Valley, No. 27—Dan'l. P. Weir, Senior Warden.
 Clear Water, No. 28—T. C. Porter, Senior Warden.
 Morning Star, No. 29—E. H. Kennedy, proxy for ☐.
 King Hiram, No. 31—C. T. Metzner, Worshipful Master.
 Sakatah, No. 32—L. Z. Rodgers, Worshipful Master.
 Star in the East, No. 33—J. W. Morford, Worshipful Master.
 A. B. Webber, Junior Warden.
 Oriental, No. 34—C. Parks, Senior Warden.

- Mount Moriah, No. 35—E. P. Barnum, Proxy for ☐.
- Preston, No 36—H. A. Billings, Worshipful Master.
A. Kalder, Senior Warden.
- Washington, No. 38.—D. A. Shaw, Worshipful Master.
A. Remington, proxy for Junior Warden.
- Fidelity, No. 39—L. R. Hathaway, Worshipful Master.
- Carnelian, No. 40—W. W. Scott, Senior Warden.
- Hermion, No. 41—Wm. Bickford, Worshipful Master.
- Hope No. 42—A. J. Snyder, Worshipful Master.
- Harmony, No. 43—W. N. Buswell, Senior Warden.
- King Solomon, No. 44—H. S. Holton, Worshipful Master.
J. H. Brown, proxy for Senior Warden.
- Union No. 45—Geo. M. Towsley, Worshipful Master.
A. W. Bangs, Senior Warden.
- Evergreen, No. 46—Truman Morse, Worshipful Master.
Robert Kilm, Senior Warden.
- Concord, No. 47—Nelson Manning, Worshipful Master.
- Social, No. 48—O. L. Bicknell, Worshipful Master.
Chas. Taylor, Senior Warden.
J. B. Harper, Junior Warden.
- Rising Sun, No. 49—S. Y. Hyde, Worshipful Master.
- Watertown, No. 50—Ernest Hamlin, Senior Warden.
- Acacia, No. 51—O. G. Leonard, Worshipful Master.
J. S. Norris, Senior Warden.
Wm. McLeish, Junior Warden.
- Cannon River, No. 52—Geo. W. Walworth, Worshipful Master.
- Faribault, No. 53—C. N. Daniels, Worshipful Master.
John Mullen, Senior Warden.
Luther Dearborn, Proxy for Junior Warden.
- Nicollet, No. 54—J. H. Snyder, Worshipful Master.
G. M. Towsley, Proxy for Junior Warden.
- Zion, No. 55—L. W. Folsom, Senior Warden.

On motion of Bro. L. E. Thompson, the report of the committee was accepted and adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following standing Committees :

On Returns of ☐—Bros. S. B. Foot, H. D. Brown and L. Z. Rodgers.

On Work of ☐ U. D.:—Bros. S. Y. Hyde, C. H. Lindsley and J. N. Castle.

On Examination of Treasurer's and Secretary's Books—Bros. O. L. Bicknell, W. G. Dye, and J. W. Morford.

On Examination of Visiting Brethren—Bros. G. M. Towsley and I. B. Cummings.

On Appeals and Grievances—Bros. L. E. Thompson, W. T. Rigby, L. Dearborn, H. L. Carver, and F. M. Crosby.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. E. H. Kennedy, J. S. Norris, and J. H. Snyder.

On Ancient Landmarks—Bros. W. H. Grant, Geo. L. Otis, and M. W. Getchell.

On motion, the Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment, until seven o'clock this evening.

EVENING SESSION—7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor, M. W. Grand Master, C. W. Nash, presiding, who delivered the following

ADDRESS:

Brethren of the Grand ☐:

I greet you, on this our Fifteenth Annual Grand Communication, as brethren, who have convened together to exchange fraternal greetings, to review the labors of the past, to deliberate, and devise such measures as will advance the best interests of Symbolical Masonry in this jurisdiction.

During the past Masonic year the blessings of Heaven have been abundantly shed upon us, both as citizens and as Masons. The earth has given forth her increase, the husbandman has been abundantly rewarded for his labors, and the different departments of industry, skill and enterprise have met with their ample and full reward.

On this auspicious occasion, and at this beautiful season of the year, when nature is putting off the pomp of her summer regalia, her livery of green, and her coronal of flowers, when autumn tints mark the woodland and the grove, and the fallen leaf stripped from the bare bough, goes rustling in the wind, it is eminently proper that we should enter upon our duties with grateful and profound acknowledgments to the *Grand Architect of the Universe* for his mercy, kindness, and manifold blessings which have been hitherto vouchsafed to us, and with sincere prayers ask His guidance and protection for the time to come.

The Masonic year, about to close, has been one of unusual prosperity to the Craft, and I am fully persuaded that the Order, in this jurisdiction, is in a more healthy condition than at any former period of its history. The Degrees have been conferred with greater care, and there is increased desire and determination by officers and brethren of Subordinate ☐, to inquire more particularly into the moral, physical, intellectual and social qualifications of those seeking admission into our ancient and honorable Fraternity. A spirit of inquiry has been awakened in the minds of the brethren, a truly laudable desire to examine into, and become more familiar with the history, philosophy, jurisprudence and beauty of Freemasonry. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you, that peace, harmony and kind fraternal feeling exist within this jurisdiction, and our brethren are dwelling together in *brotherly love, peace and unity*.

In compliance with the Constitution, rules, and customs of this Grand ☐, I will lay before you, for consideration, a report of my official acts during the past year.

I have granted twelve Dispensations for the formation of new ☐, as follows:

Brownsville, Brownsville, Nov. 19, 1866; Star in the West, Sauk Centre, Nov. 19, 1866; Ashlar, Eyota, Nov. 23, 1866; Star, Rockford, Dec. 5, 1866; Illustrious, Plainview, Dec. 29, 1866; Chain Lake, Fairmount, Jan. 22, 1867; Golden Rule, Lakeland, Feb. 11, 1867; Waumadee, Reed's Landing, Feb. 11, 1867; Madelia, Madelia, Feb. 14, 1867; Mystic Star, Rushford, April 8, 1867; Corinthian, Farmington, June 10, 1867; Forest City, Forest City, June 11, 1867.

All the applications for said ☐ were recommended by the nearest ☐, both as to the necessity for their establishment and as to the qualification and fitness of the officers named to govern them.

I have also renewed the Dispensations, without additional fee, for Meridian, Chatfield, Nov. 19, 1866; Blue Earth City, Blue Earth City, Nov. 19, 1866; Temple, Hutchinson, Nov. 21, 1866; Northern Light, Fort Garry, B. A., Nov. 21, 1866.

The renewal of the Dispensation for Meridian ☐ at Chatfield, and the granting of the Dispensation for Corinthian ☐ at Farmington, were in accordance with the recommendation of the Grand ☐ at its last session.

Satisfactory explanations were made to me why there was not a repre-

sentation at the last session of the Grand ☐, from Blue Earth City and Temple ☐. Northern Light ☐ is located at Fort Garry, British America. The long distance to be traveled rendered it difficult for that ☐ to have a representation in the Grand ☐. Believing that the interests of Masonry would be promoted, and the welfare of the brethren, I renewed said Dispensations.

All the ☐ to which Dispensations have been granted, or Dispensations renewed, will apply for charters at this Communication, except Waumadee ☐. After granting the Dispensation to Waumadee ☐, at Reed's Landing, I received information from discreet and worthy brethren, residing in different parts of the State, that impressed me with the belief that the best interests and welfare of Masonry would not be promoted by the organization of a ☐ at that place; and on the 11th day of March last, I suspended work and proceedings under said Dispensation, till I could examine into the case personally. No work had been done.

In the month of June last I visited Reed's Landing, and had an interview with the brethren who were petitioners for the ☐. I was pleased to find that all manifested a true Masonic spirit, and earnestly desired that the honor and usefulness of Masonry should be preserved. It is due to the brethren to say, that I found, on personal inquiry and examination, that the information received by me, that in a greater or less degree reflected on their prudence, qualifications and ability to hold a ☐, was incorrect. Reed's Landing is about three miles distant from Wabashaw, where Wapahasa ☐, No. 14, is located. The distance being so short between the two places, I entertained fears that difficulty would arise between the two ☐, from conflict of jurisdiction, and that one ☐ only should occupy that territory, I recalled said Dispensation. The Dispensation would not have been granted, had not the application been *unanimously* recommended by Wapahasa ☐, No. 14, and earnestly urged by the W. M., Wardens, and many of the brethren of said ☐, assuring me that the interests of the Craft and the good of Masonry would be promoted by establishing a ☐ at this place.

I desire that the Grand ☐ should establish some rule in regard to creating new ☐ near to those already chartered, and prescribe some wholesome and reasonable regulations in cases of this kind. I have been requested by the brethren at Reed's Landing to present the case to the Grand ☐, and I herewith submit the papers connected with the same.

I have rejected a number of applications for Dispensations, for various reasons.

A short time previous to the last Communication of the Grand ☐, P. G. M. George W. Prescott, then W. M. W. G. M., granted a Dispensation for a ☐ at Carver, in Carver county; but on account of the shortness of the time, after granting the Dispensation, and the session of the Grand ☐, no work was done. Application was made to me for a renewal of the Dispensation. Objections were made by many brethren, in other parts of the State, and after duly considering the case, I declined to grant the Dispensation. The brethren residing there, have, within a few days renewed their application, and desire to have the case considered by this Grand Body. There will be a representative of said brethren in attendance at this session. The whole subject is referred to you for action.

In March last, Bro. W. H. Mills, W. M. of Pleasant Grove ☐, No. 22, made application for an appropriation of funds of the Grand ☐, for the relief of Mrs. Cornish and children, a widow of a deceased worthy brother. In accordance with the provisions of Section 57, Title 7, of the Grand ☐ Constitution, I appointed a committee, consisting of Bro. W. H. Grant, W. M. of Saint Paul ☐, No. 3, Bros. John C. Terry, S. W., and Frank H. Pratt, J. W., of Ancient Landmark ☐, No. 5, to whom was referred the application. The committee recommended the appropriation of \$50.00, to be paid to Pleasant Grove ☐, No. 22, for the purposes named, which recommendation I approved, and the amount was forwarded to Pleasant Grove ☐, No. 22.

At the last session a special committee of three were appointed, consisting of Bros. M. W. Getchell, E. D. B. Porter and George L. Otis, to take into consideration the correctness of Ancient Landmark Nine, Sec.

8, Title 2, Grand ☐ Constitution, and report at this session. Bro. M. W. Getchell informed me that his duties were of such a character that he would not be able to give the subject proper attention, and desired to be relieved from said committee. I appointed Bro. W. H. Grant to fill said vacancy.

P. G. M.: George W. Prescott, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having removed from the State, I appointed W. Bro. Rev. S. Y. McMasters, Grand Chaplain, on said committee; and from his high reputation for Masonic zeal, and his acknowledged ability and scholarship, a report will be presented worthy of its author, and that will reflect great credit on this Grand ☐.

It affords me great pleasure to know, that there will be a report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. There has been no report since 1862. It is of the highest importance that this report should be made at each annual session of the Grand ☐, and I sincerely trust, in the future, it will not be neglected.

In the month of March last, I was in receipt of information, which was corroborated by statements from official sources, that there was very great suffering and destitution in the Southern States. It was estimated that more than sixty thousand people in these States, were reduced to want and actual starvation, and the cry was for *bread, bread*.

The devastation of war, the disorganized condition of the country, and the almost total failure of the crops, had produced this sad condition of affairs. Our duty, as Masons, was clear; and in this their great hour of need, we should fulfill that great mission that Masonry teaches, which is to feed the hungry and destitute—to clothe the naked—to soothe and cherish the disconsolate—to bind up the broken hearted, and in the true spirit of Masonry, forgive the errors of the past, remembering that to forget, is noble; to forgive, divine—that indiscretion in them should not destroy humanity in us, and the kind offices of Masonry are fraught with BROTHERLY LOVE, CHARITY, *Harmony and Peace*.

I issued a circular to ☐ and brethren in this jurisdiction, dated March 26, 1867, earnestly making an appeal to them, to contribute to this noble work of love, for the relief of these poor and destitute people. My appeal *was not in vain*. The ☐ and brethren responded nobly, and a sum far exceeding my most sanguine expectations, was contributed. In a number of instances, those who were not Masons, preferred this channel by which to make their contributions. The amount raised and forwarded to R. W.: Bro. W. S. Combs, Grand Secretary, was \$2,292.65, and was distributed and sent as follows: To M. W.: Bro. James L. Orr, Grand Master of South Carolina, \$500.00; to M. W.: Bro. John Harris, Grand Master of Georgia, \$500.00; to M. W.: Bro. Wilson Williams, Grand Master of Alabama, \$500.00. The sum of \$779.00 was sent and distributed to Subordinate ☐, in the States of North Carolina, Alabama and Georgia, leaving a balance which was received at a late period, and after the funds had been sent, of \$13.65, which is in the hands of the Grand Secretary.

I herewith submit correspondence from the heretofore named Grand Masters and others, acknowledging, in appropriate and fitting terms, the receipt of the funds, and expressing their gratitude to the brethren of Minnesota, for this noble act of charity in behalf of the thousands—the suffering widows and orphans—who received benefit therefrom.

On the 20th day of April last, I issued a circular to the Subordinate ☐, cautioning ☐ and brethren not to contribute pecuniary aid to one Bro. Albert Carpenter, member of Ancient Landmark ☐, No. 5, who was traveling over the State soliciting Masonic charity. From information received, I was satisfied that his conduct has been such as to render him unworthy of confidence, or a proper subject for pecuniary relief. The matter is being investigated by the ☐ of which he is a member.

Being unable to attend in person, I issued my proxy to Bro. Henry D. Barron, to constitute Zion ☐, No. 55, at Taylor's Falls, which was chartered at your last Grand Communication, and install its officers, which duty was discharged on the 15th day of December last.

A short time after the last session of this Grand Body, I received an official communication, informing me of the organization of a Grand ☐

in Nova Scotia, requesting from this Grand [] fraternal recognition. I acknowledged the receipt of the communication, but did not deem it advisable to extend them the right hand of brotherhood until the matter had been passed upon by this Grand []. As the recognition of this Grand [], by the Grand [] of other jurisdictions, has created much discussion, I consider the question one that demands careful consideration; and I recommend that the papers herewith submitted, and the whole subject, be referred to a special committee.

On the 27th day of December, 1866, I visited Rochester [], No. 21, by special invitation, and installed its officers, and delivered an address. The ceremonies were conducted in a public hall of the city, in the presence of a large and attentive audience, and the occasion was one of peculiar interest. The Masonic zeal, skill and energy of the brethren of this [], are truly commendable and worthy of emulation.

On the 9th day of January last, by special invitation, and in company with P.: G.: M.: Geo. W. Prescott, and several Grand Officers, I visited Hennepin [] No. 4, and Minneapolis [] No. 19, and consecrated their new hall, installed the officers elect, and delivered an address. The [] room is neat and conveniently arranged, fitted up with taste, and reflects great credit on the brethren composing said []. The ceremonies were public, and witnessed by a large assemblage, comprising the friends and families of the [], and a large number of visiting brethren. These [] are presided over by able and experienced officers. The kind and fraternal courtesies extended to me by the brethren of Rochester and Minneapolis will be remembered and cherished with pleasure.

It was my design to visit all the Subordinate [], and to do so would have given me great pleasure, but circumstances beyond my control have made it impossible. There are 55 chartered [] and 16 [] under dispensation. During the recess of the Grand [] I have visited 43 []. In my visitations I adopted the custom of inspecting the records of the [], correcting errors and irregularities, if any, examining its financial condition, observing the appearance of the hall and furniture, and requiring the brethren to exemplify the work and ritual; and I answered such questions of Masonic law as might be asked by the officers and brethren present. It is unnecessary for me to state in detail the condition of the [] visited; suffice it to say, that I found them generally in a healthy and prosperous condition—zealous to acquire the correct work and ritual, and a strong desire to familiarize and acquaint themselves on all matters of [] government and jurisprudence, and an earnest purpose to discharge their duty faithfully to the [], to the brethren, and mankind at large. My visitations have been attended with great satisfaction, and, I trust, profit to the []. Wherever I have been, I have uniformly had extended to me a cordial reception and kind fraternal greetings, the remembrance of which can not be effaced from my memory.

Finding that it would be impossible for me to visit all the [], I requested R.: W.: Brother W. T. Rigby, Deputy Grand Master, to visit such [] in his vicinity as he could; and in obedience to that request, he visited Clearwater [], No. 28, Monticello [], No. 16, Watertown [], No. 50, Hope [], No. 42, Rockford, Hutchinson, and Forest City [], U.: D.:.

For a full and detailed account of the condition of said [], I respectfully refer you to his report, which is herewith submitted.

During the year just closed, I have been called upon for decisions on questions of Masonic law, and the usages of the Fraternity. There are but few that could not have been readily found, had there been more application and examination of the rules and regulations of our Grand [] and the Masonic Constitutions of the Order. The decisions, involving questions of the greatest importance, are herewith submitted.

The correspondence, duties, and labors connected with the position of Grand Master, are increasing from year to year. The correspondence of the past year has exceeded three hundred communications. I have the satisfaction of knowing that every communication received by me has received due attention. The duties and labors, although at times arduous, have been discharged with pleasure and cheerfulness, and, I trust, in a manner satisfactory to my brethren.

Brethren, I have thus, as briefly as possible, laid before you a record of my official acts. That I have discharged this duty in a faultless manner, I do not suppose; but that the duty has been performed to advance the interests, honor and prosperity of the Craft, I feel assured.

The subject of changing the time for the annual session of the Grand [] has been urged upon my attention, and from the expression of brethren with whom I have conversed, I am of the opinion that it would accommodate a greater number of the [] and brethren, to have the annual session of this Grand Body in the months of June or January. The subject I commend to your favorable consideration.

The subject of non-affiliated Masons is attracting the attention of the Grand [] of other jurisdictions. It is a very vexed question. The number is greatly on the increase.

I earnestly call the attention of this Grand [] to this subject, and recommend that the same be referred to a special committee, to report at this session, or the next, to take into consideration whether non-affiliated Masons should not pay dues to the [] in whose jurisdiction they reside, or if they do not affiliate after a specified length of time, they should be suspended from all the rights and privileges of the Order, and to provide some remedy for this growing evil.

In my visitation of [] and communications with the brethren, an earnest desire has been expressed for "Uniformity of Work." This subject has received the attention of this Grand [] for several years past, but as yet nothing has practically been accomplished. To have "Uniformity of Work" in this jurisdiction, is a "consummation most devoutly to be wished," and I earnestly urge upon the attention of this Grand [], the necessity which is apparent to all, of adopting a "Work," and providing the necessary means for its dissemination among the Subordinate [].

To perfect such a system will require much time, labor and considerable expense, but the benefit that will inevitable follow, must be evident to all, and every effort should be made without delay, to accomplish the desired result.

This subject is in the hands of a competent committee, appointed at our last Grand Communication, and I am informed a report will be presented.

The questions, in Masonic jurisprudence, submitted to the Grand Master for decision, are on the increase, and involve important questions affecting the interests of Masonry; and that correct decisions should be arrived at, and receive the authoritative sanction of the Grand [], I recommend to your favorable consideration the propriety of amending our Grand [] Constitution, or by resolution providing for the appointment of a standing *Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence*, to be appointed at each session of the Grand [], to whom shall be referred all questions relating to the customs, usages, privileges and work of the Fraternity, and that the Grand Master shall make a report at each annual session, of all decisions made by him, upon questions of Masonic law, during the year, which decisions shall be referred to said committee, and that the decision, with the report of the committee, be published in the Proceedings of the Grand [].

While I speak, memory recalls that during the past year two eminent Masons have passed from their labors here below, and been summoned to "that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns"—Most Worshipful Brother John L. Goddard, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, who died on Wednesday, July 17, 1867, in Philadelphia, in the 55th year of his age, and Most Worshipful Brother George Carlyle Whiting, Grand Master of the Grand [] of the District of Columbia, who died Sept. 4th, 1867, in the 51st year of his age.

By the death of Bro. Jno. L. Goddard, the Fraternity of Pennsylvania have lost an ardent friend, and the Masonic Order at large, one of its most active and useful members. "*Peace be to his ashes.*"

Bro. Geo. Carlyle Whiting had visited this jurisdiction and was intimately and favorably known by many brethren in this State. A brief review of his character and history is eminently proper. He was made a Mason in National [] No. 12, of the District of Columbia, in 1846, of which Gen. Shields was then W. Master—for many years he was Secretary of said [], and after the formation of "B. B. French []," he was elected its

W. . M. . He was an active member of Columbia Chapter, No. 1, and of Washington Commandery, No. 1, District of Columbia, and also occupied the high and honorable position of Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

In 1854 he was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand ☐ of the District of Columbia, and was first elected Grand Master in 1856, the duties of which office he discharged with such signal ability that he was continuously re-elected from 1856 to 1861, when he declined a re-election.

In 1865 the brethren of his jurisdiction, with great unanimity elected him again to preside in the Grand East, which position he continued to hold at the time of his death. He had held many very important civil positions in the departments in Washington City. He was appointed clerk in the General Land Office, in 1835, by President Jackson. In 1856 he was appointed Commissioner of Pensions, which office he held until 1861. He had been connected with the Department of the Interior ever since its organization, and was holding an honorable and responsible position in said department at the time he was called from below to his reward.

In the death of Bro. Whiting, the Masonic Fraternity has lost a bright ornament, the circle in which he moved, a true and warm-hearted gentleman, his family an affectionate and devoted husband and father, and the government one of its most valuable and highly prized officers.

"None knew him but to love him
As a man whose heart contained
The jewel rare of Charity—
Whose works his words sustained.

Whose every thought and action
Was honorable and fair,
Whose record of a useful life
Were measured by the square.

It is not for man to murmur—
We can mourn, but not complain,
For the world's Grand Master tells us
The good shall rise again.

He is gone from earthly labors,
Wafted on the wings of love;
To the presence of the Architect
Who will say to him above:—

'Thou hast been a faithful craftsman,
Building up my temple walls;
And now thy work is ended,
Enter thou its glorious halls.'"

I would recommend that a special committee be appointed to prepare suitable resolutions, expressive of the sense of the Grand ☐, on the death of these two eminent brethren.

Brethren, Masonry was founded in those dark ages when Christianity and civilization were yet in their infancy, and the arts and sciences had shed but a few and imperfect rays across the gloom of barbarism. The material wants and necessities of our primitive brethren compelled them to seek for mutual aid, protection and assistance. Diversity of talent, interests and pursuits, made each dependent on the other, and from this condition of affairs society was formed, and, as a natural result, men of the same habits, pursuits and interests, were more intimately brought together, not only with a view for mutual aid and protection, but for improvement and advantage. This was produced by the natural impulse felt by congenial minds.

Hence it became necessary to use a language that would be recognized by all people, nations, and kindred, that we should be able to discern the brethren of the great family of man, through certain tokens and signs. So Masons, who are possessed of that universal language, can communicate their history, their wants, their feelings, to every other Mason on the face of the globe.

The influence of Masonry is felt in all lands, and in every department of life.

In every church some of its members are found kneeling at her sacred altars.

There is no political party but numbers some of our Order in its ranks. Its Craftsmen are found in every calling and profession. "Its symbols are seen in every public assembly." In every hamlet of the land its votaries stand by the fireside. It is an Universal Brotherhood—it recognizes but one race, the family of man.

It is a pleasant reflection to know, "that it is our chosen duty to carry the torch of moral and spiritual light in the vanguard of the world's onward march."

Masonry is a system of symbolical representations of spiritual truths, and has been defined to be a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated and taught by symbols our duty to ourselves and to mankind, and to act well our part in the great drama of life, to fulfill the work assigned us, that it may be said, when we have passed to our reward, "*He lived well.*"

"Masonry has diffused a light abroad, through the length and breadth of the land, which has tinged every human institution with its reflections." By its potent influence, it has enlightened, enlarged and liberalized the minds of men, cultivated a spirit of liberality and generosity, taught men to be humane and genial, frank, sincere and open-hearted.

To be zealous to good unto all, to protect the feeble, to comfort, aid and succor the poor, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, to bind up the wounds of the disconsolate, to cheer and encourage the weary pilgrim on his journey, is its highest pleasure and noblest aims.

Masonry is an element of power, when properly considered and appreciated. The true intent and design of all its ceremonies, mystic rites, forms and symbols, is to elevate and improve, not only its devotees, but mankind; and whenever the pure teachings of Masonry fail to improve and elevate, and make men better, and more considerate and thoughtful, the fault is with those who impart its mysteries by its forms and ceremonies, or in those who receive them.

Masonry fixes, defines, and points out all the duties of man to himself, and his relations to society. It enters the family and points out the obligations we owe there, requiring us to perform all the duties of a good father, a kind husband, an obedient son and affectionate brother.

It goes from the family to the social and business circles of society, and requires us to be true and faithful to our friends, faithful to all the promises we make, the pledges we give, and the vows that we voluntarily assume.

It treats of our duty to the Government and State in which we live, making it obligatory to be faithful to our country, and to maintain its honor and dignity at all times and in all places.

It is silent on no subject that concerns man and all his relations. Let us be true and faithful to Masonry and all its dearest interests, and be more deeply impressed with the sublime and great moral lessons that it teaches, remembering that its character and teachings are universal, and for all time to come. Be vigilant and active in the discharge of every duty, and practice Freemasonry, so that when we are summoned to lay aside our working tools, we will not go

"Like the quarry slave at night
Scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach the grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Brethren, as delegates from the several Subordinate , your duties will soon come to a close, and having examined and reviewed the work of the past Masonic year, and selected your Grand Officers for the ensuing year, you will return to your homes to prosecute your labor with your respective bands of craftsmen.

When you return, assemble the Craft around the altar, and admonish them to practice and carry out into the world, and observe in all their dealings with mankind, those vows voluntarily assumed within our sacred retreat.

I trust that your deliberations will be harmonious and profitable to each one and all, and that you may go from this grand altar benefited and improved and with renewed vigor.

Permit me to return to you my grateful and heartfelt thanks for the many and generous courtesies I have at all times received in my official and personal intercourse, during the period that I have been associated with you, but especially for the honorable position which, through your confidence, I now hold as your presiding officer.

The responsible and distinguished honor that it confers I fully appreciate. Relying on your aid and forbearance, let us proceed to the discharge of those important duties which are enjoined upon us as members of this Grand ☐.

C. W. NASH, *Grand Master.*

Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, P. G. M., moved the address be referred to a select committee of three, which motion prevailed, and Bros. A. T. C. Pierson, L. Dearborn and B. F. Smith, were appointed such committee.

On motion, a Committee on Pay Roll was appointed, consisting of Bros. H. S. Holton, D. A. Shaw and J. K. Miller.

The Grand Secretary made the following report of receipts, which was referred to the committee on Secretary's and Treasurer's accounts :

William S. Combs, Grand Secretary.

In ac't. with the M. W. G. ☐ of Minnesota.

1866.

RECEIPTS.

Nov. 13.	By Cash	Blue Earth ☐ U. D., dues....	\$16 00
	"	Zion ☐ No. 55, charter.....	25 00
19.	"	Brownsville ☐ U. D., Dispensation.....	20 00
	"	Star in the West U. D., Sauk Centre, Disp..	20 00
	"	Star, (Rockford) U. D., Dispensation.....	20 00
30.	"	Ashlar (Eyota) U. D., Dispensation.....	20 00
	"	10 Grand ☐ Registers @ \$2.....	20 00
	"	1 Visitors' Register (old Pacific ☐).	2 00
Dec. 5.	"	Illustrious U. D., (Plainview) Dispensation.	20 00
1867.			
Jan. 1.	"	Chain Lakes (Fairmount) Dispensation.....	20 00
Feb. 11.	"	Waumadee (Reed's Landing) Dispensation....	20 00
	"	Madelia, U. D., Madelia, Dispensation.....	20 00
	"	Golden Rule (Lakeland) Dispensation.....	20 00
March 31.	"	Northern Light U. D., dues.....	38 00
April 8.	"	Mystic Star (Rushford) Dispensation.....	20 00
June 10.	"	Corinthian (Farmington) Dispensation.....	20 00
11.	"	Forest City (Forest City) Dispensation.....	20 00
	"	1 Grand ☐ Register.....	2 00
	"	Balance of Southern Relief Fund.....	13 65

\$356 65

DISBURSEMENTS.

Oct. 31.	1 Letter Book.....	\$2 75
Nov. 21.	1/2 ream printed Letter Heads for G. M.....	6 00
	1/2 ream printed Letter Heads for G. S.....	6 00
	500 printed official envelopes " ".....	8 00
	Postage paid.....	18 00
	Envelopes and Stationery.....	2 75
	Pioneer Printing Co. for 300 circulars.....	6 75
	Balance in hands of Secretary.....	\$50 25
		306 40

In the matter of Southern Relief, the following circular was issued by the M.: W.: the G.: M.:

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF MASONS, {
ST. PAUL, MINN., March 26th, 1867. }

BRETHREN:—I am in receipt of information, which is corroborated by statements from official sources, that there is very great destitution in the Southern States. It is estimated that more than sixty thousand people in these States are reduced to want and actual starvation, and the cry is for bread, bread. The devastations of war, the disorganized condition of the country, and the almost total failure of the crops, has produced this sad condition of affairs. Our duty, as Masons, is clear; and in this their hour of need, let us fulfill that great mission that Masonry teaches, which is to feed the hungry and destitute—to clothe the naked—to soothe and cherish the disconsolate—to bind up the broken hearted; and in the true spirit and genius of the design of the sublime teachings of Masonry, forgive the errors of the past, remembering that to forget is noble, to forgive is divine—that indiscretion in them should not destroy humanity in us. All over the North, organizations of different kinds are taking the necessary steps to raise funds, to be sent forward for the relief of these poor, starving people. The kind offices of Masonry are fraught with Brotherly Love, Charity, Harmony and Peace.

Believing that [E] and individual Masons, in this State, desire to contribute to this noble work of love, I earnestly make this appeal to the brethren of this jurisdiction, well knowing that there will be a cheerful response.

Contributions from [E] and individual Masons will be sent by express or draft to R.: W.: Bro. W. S. Combs, Grand Secretary, St. Paul, Minnesota.

The amount thus received will be apportioned among the different States that are in need, and forwarded to the Grand Masters of said States for distribution. Let this work be done at once.

Fraternally, &c.,

C. W. NASH, *Grand Master.*

Attest:

W. S. COMBS, *Grand Secretary.*

The following sums were duly received by the G.: S.: in response to the above appeal.

St. John's, No. 1, Stillwater.....	\$100 00
St. Paul, No. 3, St. Paul.....	72 50
Hennepin, No. 4, St. Anthony.....	155 50
Ancient Landmark, No. 5, St. Paul.....	238 00
Dakota, No. 7, Hastings.....	25 00
Red Wing, No. 8, Red Wing.....	200 00
Mankato, No. 12, Mankato.....	75 00
Winona, No. 18, Winona.....	460 00
Minneapolis, No. 19, Minneapolis.....	18 30
Caledonia, No. 20, Caledonia.....	31 50
Rochester, No. 21, Rochester.....	120 00
Wilton, No. 24, Wilton.....	20 00
Western Star, No. 26, Albert Lea.....	11 00
Morning Star, No. 29, Caledonia.....	49 50
Anoka, No. 30, Anoka.....	38 00
King Hiram, No. 31, Belle Plaine.....	20 00
Mt. Moriah, No. 35, Hastings.....	25 00
Preston, No. 36, Preston.....	30 00
Hermon, No. 40, Zumbrota.....	15 00
Harmony, No. 43, Utica.....	25 00
Evergreen, No. 46, Troy.....	17 00
Social, No. 48, Northfield.....	62 85
Rising Sun, No. 49, St. Charles.....	37 50
Watertown, No. 50, Watertown.....	20 00

Acacia, No. 51, Cottage Grove.....	50 00
Faribault, No. 53, Faribault.....	46 00
Nicollet, No. 54, St. Peter.....	81 00
Zion, No. 55, Taylor's Falls.....	13 00
Illustrious, U. D., Plainview.....	41 00

The following sums from individual brethren :

W. J. Cullen, St. Paul.....	100 00
John H. Reaney, St. Paul.....	3 00
Jos. Anderson, St. Paul.....	5 00
C. A. Warner, Chaska.....	5 00
H. P. Upham, Chaska.....	5 00
Freeman James, Chaska.....	5 00
W. B. Newcomb, Chaska.....	5 00
C. W. Griggs, Chaska.....	5 00
Masons of Carver.....	32 00
Brevet Major R. H. Hall, Fort Abercrombie.....	10 00
Brevet Major W. H. Gardner, Fort Abercrombie.....	10 00
W. C. Nash, Fort Abercrombie.....	5 00
E. P. Barnum, Fort Abercrombie.....	5 00

Total..... \$2,292 65

Of which sum, \$2,279.00 has been paid over to the M. W. G. M., thus leaving in my hands a balance of \$13.65.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following report, which was referred to the Committee on Secretary's and Treasurer's books :

The Grand [] of Minnesota in account with Geo. L. Otis, G. T. :

RECEIPTS.

1866. Oct. 24.	U. S. Bonds and cash as per report....	\$750 00	
	Of Finance Committee, page 21,		
	Pr. Proceedings, 1866.....	1,834 37	\$2,584 37
" " 26	Cash from Bro. Carpenter, G. S.		1,612 30
1867. July 15.	Cash for coupons as follows, viz:		
	\$45 in gold coupons at \$1.37.....	\$61 65	
	46 coupons \$1.82½.....	83 95	145 60
	Total receipts.....		\$4,342 27

DISBURSEMENTS.

1866. Oct. 24.	U. S. bonds on hand as above.....	\$750 00
1867. Jan. 26.	Cash invested in \$2,300 7-30 bonds as per statement, voucher No. 1.....	\$2,397 06
1866. Oct. 31.	Cash paid Bro. Prescott as per Grand [] resolution. (See Proceedings, 1866, page 22).....	50 00
1866. Nov. 3.	Cash to Mantorville [] as per resolution of G. S. []. (See Proceedings, 1866, page 22, voucher, No. 2.....	400 00
" " 15.	Cash Ins. for G. S. [] property, voucher No. 3.....	54 00
" Dec. 29.	Cash, printer's bill, voucher No. 4...	76 00
1867. Jan. 26.	Cash paid for safe for G. S. [] papers, voucher No. 5	3 00
" April 4.	Cash to Pleasant Grove [], voucher No. 6.....	50 00
" Oct. 19.	Cash to G. S. M.'s expenses in visiting [], voucher No. 7.....	162 00
	Total.....	\$3,942 06

Assets of Grand ☐ in Grand Treasurer's hands viz :

1. U. S. 5-20 bonds.....	\$750 00
2. U. S. 7-30 bonds	2,300 00
3. Mantorville note.....	400 00
4. Cash balance.....	400 21
Total assets.....	<u>\$3,850 21</u>

The special committee appointed at the last Annual Communication, to take into consideration the correctness of Landmark nine, and to report at the next Annual Communication, submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Minnesota :

The special committee appointed to take into consideration the correctness of *Landmark Nine*, and report upon the same, beg leave to submit the following :

That having carefully compared said landmark with the ancient charges and Constitutions, they find the same not only substantially in the language of the Gothic Constitution adopted at York, in the year 926, which is believed to be the most ancient of our written Constitutions, but in its spirit is in perfect harmony with every charge and Grand ☐ regulation to be found in the books until within the last quarter of a century.

There has of late, however, been a disposition in some jurisdictions to qualify this ancient regulation by giving to it a construction which would admit maimed or deformed persons, providing their maim or deformity be not such as to prevent them from complying with all the requisitions of the Masonic ritual.

No such qualification or construction anciently existed, and your committee see no good reason for giving to this landmark a different construction than that which it has received from time immemorial.

The Symbolic Temple we build is not other or different from that erected by the fathers of the Craft in the early light of the world's morning. It is as necessary, to-day that every block should be square and perfect in its physical proportions as it was in the days of Solomon.

In Masonry, the physically perfect man is a symbol of that perfect moral and intellectual temple whose builder and maker is God.

Such being the plain law of Masonry, it is not the province of any man or body of men to enlarge or abridge its landmarks by construction.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. GRANT,	} Committee.
E. D. B. PORTER,	
G. L. OTIS.	

The committee to which was referred the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master for appropriation, would respectfully report, recommending :

That so much of said address as relates to the granting of dispensations for new ☐, except those of Reed's Landing and Carver, be referred to the Committee on Work of ☐ under Dispensation.

So much as relates to the Grand ☐ of Nova Scotia, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

So much as relates to decisions on questions of Customs, Usages, &c., be referred to the Committee on Ancient Landmarks.

So much as relates to a change of the time of meeting of the Grand ☐, be referred to a special committee of three.

That so much as relates to the decease of the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and District of Columbia, be referred to a special committee of three.

That so much as relates to the creating of a Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, be referred to a special committee of three.

That so much as relates to Reed's Landing and Carver, be referred to a special committee of three.

That so much as relates to non-affiliated Masons, be referred to a special committee of three.

And that the residue of the address be referred to a special committee of three.

A. T. C. PIERSON, }
L. DEARBORN, } Committee.
B. F. SMITH. }

The report was accepted and adopted.

M.: W.: C. W. Nash, G.: M.:, appointed the following special committees, on the report of Committee for Appropriating the G.: M.: Address :

On so much as related to a change of the time of meeting of the Grand ☐, in Annual Communication, to Bros. E. C. Cross, C. T. Metzner and L. R. Hathaway.

On so much as related to the decease of the Grand Masters of Pennsylvania and District of Columbia, to Bros. A. T. C. Pierson, Samuel E. Adams, and Geo. L. Otis.

On so much as related to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to Bros. Chas. Taylor, F. H. Pratt, and A. W. Bangs.

On so much as related to Reed's Landing and Carver, to Bros. George L. Otis, John Mullen, and E. P. Barnum.

On so much as related to non-affiliated Masons, to Bros. F. M. Crosby, Charles Taylor, and Wm. H. Grant.

On the residue of the address, to Bros. S. Y. McMasters, M. W. Getchell, and C. A. Upham.

On motion of Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, P.: G.: M.:, the G.: L.: was called from labor to refreshment until 11 o'clock A. M.

SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION, 11 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The M.: W.: the Grand ☐ resumed labor, the G.: M.:, C. W. Nash, presiding.

Present, the same officers and representatives as yesterday.

Prayer by W.: Bro. S. Y. McMasters, G.: C.:.

Minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and approved.

Bro. E. H. Kennedy presented a petition from brethren residing at Houston, Houston county, praying for a Dispensation to open a ☐ at that place.

On motion the petition was referred to the Committee on ☐, U.: D.:.

The Committee on Returns of ☐ reported as follows :

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Minnesota:

Your Committee on ☐ Returns, would report that they have examined the returns of Subordinate ☐, and find the amounts due the Grand ☐ as follows:

RETURNS OF ☐.

St. John's, No. 1, Stillwater.....	\$72 50
Cataract, No. 2, St. Anthony.....	90 50
St. Paul, No. 3, St. Paul.....	72 00
Hennepin, No. 4, Minneapolis.....	132 50
Ancient Landmark, No. 5, St. Paul.....	92 00
Dakota, No. 7, Hastings.....	39 50
Red Wing, No. 8, Red Wing.....	62 00
Mantorville, No. 11, Mantorville.....	36 00
Mankato, No. 12, Mankato.....	50 50
Wapahasa, No. 14, Wabashaw.....	52 00
Monticello, No. 16, Monticello.....	35 50
Hokah, No. 17, Hokah, (1865).....	31 50
" " " (1866).....	21 00
" " " (1867).....	35 00
Winona, No. 18, Winona.....	121 00
Minneapolis,† No. 19, Minneapolis, 77 50.....	
Caledonia,* No. 20, Caledonia.....	
Rochester, No. 21, Rochester.....	121 50
Pleasant Grove,* No. 22, Pleasant Grove.....	
North Star, No. 23, St. Cloud.....	48 00
Wilton, No. 24, Wilton.....	29 00
Western Star, No. 26, Albert Lea.....	19 00
Blue Earth Valley, No. 27, Winnebago City.....	34 50
Clear Water, No. 28, Clearwater.....	19 00
Morning Star, No. 29, La Crescent.....	44 50
Anoka,* No. 30, Anoka.....	
King Hiram, No. 31, Belle Plaine.....	13 00
Sakatah, No. 32, Waterville.....	28 50
Star in the East, No. 33, Owatonna.....	40 50
Oriental, No. 34, Cannon Falls.....	20 00
Mt. Moriah, No. 35, Hastings.....	44 50
Preston, No. 36, Preston.....	43 50
Mystic Tie,† No. 37, Pine Island, (1866) 57,00.....	
Mystic Tie,† No. 37, Pine Island, (1867) 54,50.....	
Washington, No. 38, Wasioja.....	26 00
Fidelity, No. 39, Austin.....	51 50
Carnelian, No. 40, Lake City.....	55 00
Hermon, No. 40, Zumbrota.....	21 00
Hope, No. 42, Glencoe, (1866).....	34 00
Hope, No. 42, Glencoe, (1867).....	29 50
Harmony, No. 43, Utica.....	35 50
King Solomon, No. 44, Shakopee.....	45 50
Union, No. 45, Le Sueur.....	47 00
Evergreen, No. 46, Troy.....	28 00
Concord, No. 47, Cleveland.....	26 00
Social, No. 48, Northfield.....	54 00
Rising Sun, No. 49, St. Charles.....	38 00
Watertown, No. 50, Watertown.....	52 50
Acacia, No. 51, Cottage Grove.....	42 50
Cannon River, No. 52, Morristown.....	50 00
Faribault, No. 53, Faribault.....	46 00
Nicollet, No. 54, Saint Peter.....	41 00
Zion, No. 55, Taylor's Falls.....	19 00
Meridian, U. D., Chatfield.....	19 00
Spring Valley, U. D., Spring Valley.....	50 00
Brownsville, U. D., Brownsville, 7,50.....	2 00

* Not reported and not paid, † Reported but not paid.

Star in the West, U. D., Sauk Center.....	40 00
Temple, U. D., Hutchinson.....	30 00
Ashlar, U. D., Eyota.....	31 00
Star, U. D., Rockford.....	15 00
Illustrious, U. D., Plainview.....	84 00
Chain Lake, U. D., Fairmount.....	16 00
Golden Rule, U. D., Lakeland.....	25 00
Madelia, U. D., Madelia.....	13 00
Corinthian, U. D., Farmington.....	8 00
Blue Earth City, U. D., Blue Earth City.....	29 50
Waumadec,* U. D., Reed's Landing.....	
Mystic Star, U. D., Rushford.....	
Forest City, U. D., Forest City.....	

Total,

\$2,534 60

While most of these returns are properly made, some of them contain errors which have been corrected by your committee, so far as they were able to do so, and noted in the column of "remarks."

Some of the reports evince a want of proper care and attention on the part of "Masters" and "Secretaries," and even ignorance or a misunderstanding of the plain constitutional provisions in reference to Grand ☐ dues. Owing to the irregularity in making their returns, your committee recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to make out and print specimen copies of returns, for distribution, to the several Subordinate ☐.

S. B. FOOT,
H. D. BROWN, } Committee.
L. Z. ROGERS.

The M. W. D. G. M., W. T. Rigby, made the following report of Visitation of ☐, by order of the M. W. G. M., which was accepted and referred to the Committee on ☐ U. D.

CLEARWATER, 21st Oct., 1867.

C. W. Nash, M. W. G. M. of Masons, Saint Paul, Minnesota :

DEAR SIR AND BRO :—In accordance with your request of 28th September, I have visited Monticello ☐, No. 16, Watertown, No. 50, Hope, No. 42, and Clearwater, No. 28; also Rockford, Hutchinson and Forest City ☐, U. D.. My route, for the most part, lay through the "Big Woods," and upon the frontier. The condition of the roads and absence of means of public conveyance, made it a task of no small magnitude. I reached Monticello ☐, No. 16, on Monday, the 14th inst. The records of this ☐ are well kept. The ☐ room is convenient and conveniently located, and safe from the prying eyes of the profane. The clothing, jewels and furniture are in good condition, and the ☐ is out of debt, with a small amount of money in the treasury, and is, to all appearances, harmonious and prosperous. It is the more gratifying to me to be able to make so flattering a statement, from the low estate that the ☐ had fallen into for a few years past. I witnessed and assisted in the work of the Third Degree, and felt called upon to suggest but few alterations.

I arrived at Rockford at M. on Tuesday, the 15th, and saw but few of the brethren, and was informed that the W. M. had removed to Minneapolis and had taken the Dispensation with him, notwithstanding both his Wardens are yet in Rockford, and that all efforts to obtain the Dispensation had proved unavailing. I was informed the ☐ had made but five Masons, and did not work harmoniously, owing in the main, perhaps, to a want of administrative ability on the part of the W. M.. Unless some brother can be found there who possesses a goodly share of those rare qualities so requisite to success in building up a new ☐, I would recommend that the Dispensation be withdrawn for the present. It is thought, however, that the present S. W. will be successful, if he has an

* Not reported and not paid.

opportunity. I did not have the pleasure of making his acquaintance. I did not see the records of the [] , and inasmuch as they will be sent up for the inspection of the Grand [] , and the whole subject matter referred to a committee for their scrutiny, it is better that I do not forestall its action.

I met with Watertown [] , No. 50, on the evening of the 15th, and saw the work of the E. A. Degree exemplified, and found very few corrections indeed, to suggest. The [] room is convenient of access, safe and commodious. The records are faultless, and its finances in a flattering condition for a young [] . W. Bro. I. I. Lewis possesses a good degree of administrative ability, and under his government the [] is harmonious and prosperous.

Hope [] , No. 42, at Glencoe, have an indifferent [] room, small, and floors without carpets, but the clothing, jewels, records and finances I found in good condition. The [] had no work prepared, and I could judge of it only from the lectures. I had occasion to recommend some changes, especially in the opening and closing ceremonies. The Good Templars occupy the [] room for their meetings also. On the whole, Hope [] is harmonious and prosperous, with a fund in its Treasury of about \$400.

At Hutchinson I found the brethren occupying the second story of a large school house for a [] room, not convenient or conveniently located, and without proper rooms for the preparation of the work. The work was exemplified in the first and second Degrees, and I found it necessary to suggest many changes, as also in the opening and closing ceremonies. The work practiced purports to be a Massachusetts work, and embraces much that would not be recognized as Masonry in this jurisdiction. W. Bro. Pendergast was made in Massachusetts and has never sat in a [] in the West. The Good Templars occupy the same room for their meetings. There is undoubtedly sufficient material within reach of that thriving town to sustain a good [] , and if theirs is chartered (as it is their wish,) I would recommend that provision be made to educate it in the work of this jurisdiction, and that they procure a more suitable room. I will not speak of the records, as they will be sent up for the inspection of the Grand [] . At Forest City the [] has done no work, but meets regularly for instruction. No suitable [] room has, as yet, been provided, but will be at an early day. The quarries afford abundant material, which will be worked as soon as the workmen are suitably instructed, and a suitable place is provided for labor. I am instructed to ask for a renewal of the Dispensation.

Clearwater [] , No. 28, has done but little work this year, and is in debt about \$100, having invested its funds in grounds for a cemetery, the only one in the vicinity, the dead thus far being buried, by sufferance, on private property, which is now forbidden. The tract has been neatly laid out and plotted, an investment that will, in time, make the [] independent. The liabilities of the [] are entirely among its members. The [] room is safe, convenient, well carpeted and furnished. The records are well kept, and the work of the [] will not compare unfavorably with neighboring [] .

It has taken a full week of severe labor, with a span of horses and buggy, to make the circuit. I have been treated with much kindness and consideration by the brethren, and though the roads have been "*rough and rugged*," and muddy, and the labor severe, I have enjoyed the trip well.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

W. T. RIGBY, Deputy G. M. .

The special committee on that part of the M. W. G. M. address, relative to the season for holding the Annual Communications of the M. W. the G. [] , presented the following report:

Having consulted many of the delegates from different parts of the State, we would respectfully suggest that the 2d Tuesday after the 1st

Monday of January meets the approval of most brothers consulted, and recommend that that day be fixed for the future Communications of the Grand ☐.

E. C. CROSS,
C. T. METZNER, } Committee.
L. R. HATHAWAY.

On motion the report was amended as to the next Annual Communication of the G. L. to the second Tuesday after the first Monday of January, 1869.

The vote of ☐ was called for on the adoption of the recommendation of the committee, which resulted as follows :

Those voting aye were Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 26 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55,—36 ☐ , 3 votes each.....	108
Grand Officers.....	10
Total ayes.....	118
Those voting nay were Nos. 14, 36, 40, 41—4 ☐ , 3 votes each..	12
Grand Officers.....	1
Total nays.....	13

So the recommendation of the committee prevailed.

Bro. D. G. M. W. T. Rigby offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That Secretaries of Subordinate ☐ be required to make their returns to the G. S. on the 1st day of December in each year, the first return to include the time from the date of last returns, and to make them up to the 1st day of December, A. L. 5868.

On motion of Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, P. G. M.,

Resolved, That the matter of the expulsion of Bro. Hadley (see Proceedings of 1865, page 44,) be referred to the Committee on Appeals and Grievances.

On motion of Bro. M. W. Getchell the resolution was laid on the table.

The Committee on Ancient Landmarks made the following report :

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Ancient Landmarks would respectfully call your attention to a practice which has obtained to some extent, in this jurisdiction, of allowing Masons who had been stricken from the roll under section 36, title 5 of the Constitution, to become members again, by payment of dues only. Your committee are of the opinion that a non affiliated Mason can become a member of a ☐ only in one way ; and therefore we offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That a brother stricken from the roll, pursuant to section 36, of title 5, of the Constitution, can become a member again *only* by a regular petition, a favorable report, and a unanimous ballot.

GEO. L. OTIS,
M. W. GETCHELL. } Committee.

Brother L. E. Thompson moved that the report be referred to a special committee.

During the pendency of the motion, the Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment until 3 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION—3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand ☐ resumed labor, G. . M. . C. W. Nash presiding.

The motion of Brother L. E. Thompson was then taken up, and after some discussion, the vote being taken, the motion was lost.

On motion, the report of Committee on Ancient Landmarks was accepted and adopted.

The Committee on Secretary and Treasurer's accounts presented the following report:

To the M. . W. . Grand ☐ of Minnesota, now in session:

The committee to whom was assigned the examination of the books and papers of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary, beg leave to report:

That they have examined the accounts of the G. . T. . and G. . S. ., and find their accounts correctly reported to the G. . ☐.

The finances of the G. . ☐ are now as follows:

There are in the hands of the G. . T. .

U. S. 5-20 bonds.....	\$ 750 00
U. S. 7-30 bonds.....	2,300 00
Mantorville ☐ , No. 11, note.....	400 00
Cash balance.....	400 21

Total.....	\$3,850 21
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There is in the hands of the Secretary,

A cash balance of.....	\$292 75
Balance of amount received for southern relief.....	13 65

Total.....	\$306 40
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Sum total in hands of T. . and S.	\$4,156 61
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All of which is respectfully submitted.

O. L. BICKNELL,	} Committee.
W. G. DYE,	
J. W. MORFORD.	

Bro. W. H. Grant offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to bring up the records of this Grand ☐ to, and including the present session, and that the G. . M. . be authorized to draw on the G. . T. . for the expense of perfecting the same.

Bro. W. W. Scott offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have printed 750 copies of the Proceedings of this Communication; that at the next Communication of the Grand ☐ he present a schedule of the number of copies of the Proceedings of past Communications now on hand, and a statement of the estimated cost of reprinting such Proceedings as are out of print.

W. . Bro. S. Y. McMasters read the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. [See Appendix.]

On motion of Bro. G. W. Merrill, the report was unanimously accepted, and ordered printed with the Proceedings.

Bro. S. B. Foot presented a petition from brethren residing at Kasson, for a Dispensation to open a ☐ at that place.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on [] U. : D. :

Bro. G. L. Otis, from the special committee on that part of the G. : M. : address relating to the [] at Carver and Reed's Landing, submitted the following report :

To the M. : W. : Grand [] of the State of Minnesota :

Your committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as refers to [] under Dispensation at Carver and Reed's Landing, have had the matter under consideration, and respectfully report :

1st. That the facts upon which the Grand Master founded his action in refusing to restore the Dispensation for a [] at Carver, have been placed before your committee, and in their opinion are amply sufficient to justify such refusal, and your committee respectfully recommend that the action of the Grand Master in this respect be sustained.

2d. In regard to the matter at Reed's Landing, your committee are of opinion that the character and qualifications of the brethren at that place, asking for the Dispensation in question, are unexceptionable, but they are of opinion that the creation of a new [] at that point is inexpedient by reason of the small population of the district that would be included within its jurisdiction. Said [] would be within three miles of the [] at Wabasha, and only fifteen miles from Lake City, at which places the residents of the proposed new district can be accommodated without much inconvenience. The town of Reed's Landing contains a population of only from three to five hundred souls, and all parties seem to agree that the population will not increase. Considering this, and the small country that would be included with the town in the new jurisdiction, your committee cannot believe that the good of the brethren residing there would be promoted by the new [], and they therefore respectfully recommend that the action of the Grand Master in the matter under consideration be sustained.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. L. OTIS,
E. P. BARNUM, } Committee.
JOHN MULLEN.

The Committee on Ancient Landmarks submitted the following report :

To the M. : W. : Grand [] of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Ancient Landmarks, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. : W. : Grand Master, as relates to the usages and regulations of Masonry and the decision of questions of Masonic jurisprudence made by him during the Masonic year, report that the following questions have been submitted and decided, and correctly, in every instance, in the opinion of your committee :

Has a [] U. : D. : power to try its members?

Ans. The right of authority is against a [] U. : D. : having power to try its members.

Can a [] U. : D. : admit members?

Ans. No. The Grand [] of this State, in 1857, decided that [] under Dispensation have not the power to admit members.

Who are members of a [] U. : D. : ?

Ans. By strict construction, the only legal members of a [] under Dispensation are those named in the Dispensation. But the usage and the custom in this jurisdiction has been to regard the petitioners for the Dispensation and all Master Masons made in said [], as members, and as such are entitled to vote, and participate in the transactions of the [].

What is the jurisdiction of a [] ?

Ans. The jurisdiction of a Subordinate [] extends, in every direction, half way between it and the nearest [], but not beyond the jurisdiction of its own Grand [].

In case a petition has been received by the ☐, and referred to a committee for investigation, has the Master of the ☐ a right to withdraw said petition, without the consent of the ☐, and discharge the committee?

Ans. The W. M. has no such right. See resolution of G. ☐, page 127, 1858.

Has a member of the ☐ the right to object to the initiation of a candidate, or advancement, after the ballot has been had, and which is favorable, and before he has received the degree?

Ans. Yes.

The report of the committee of investigation, on the petition of a candidate, is that he is not eligible by reason that he had not resided within the jurisdiction of the ☐ one year previous to making such application. Must the petition take its regular course, or can it be withdrawn?

Ans. The petition in the first instance was not properly before the ☐, and should not have been received. Being irregular, it can be withdrawn. See report.

What amount of dues must a suspended Mason pay to be restored—the amount for which he was stricken from the roll, or to the time when he was restored?

Ans. Only the amount due at the time he was stricken from the roll.

Can members be dimitted at any other than a regular Communication, and if a brother applies for a dimit at a proper time, and it is granted, but the member does not receive the certificate from the Secretary, and afterwards declines to receive it, is he still a member of the ☐.

Ans. The ☐ has no right to grant dimit, except at a regular Communication of the ☐. When the ☐ grants the dimit he ceases to be a member; the action of the ☐ is complete and final. The certificate is only the written evidence of the action of the ☐. If he desires to become a member of said ☐ he must apply as a non-affiliated Mason.

Can a non-affiliated Mason visit a ☐, after he has resided six months within the jurisdiction of said ☐, before he applies for membership?

Ans. He can not. The resolution of the Grand ☐, page 285, Proceedings 1859, is positive and direct on this point.

If a brother has received the Degree of Past Master in a Royal Arch Chapter but has not been elected and installed as Master of a ☐, is he qualified to install the officers of a ☐.

Ans. No.

The following question and answer have also been submitted:

In case a profane has been rejected, must he wait six months before he can re-apply, and in case he does wish to apply again must he re-apply to the same ☐.

Ans. He must wait six months. See Grand ☐ resolution, page 201, Proceedings, 1858.

The Grand Master intimates no opinion upon the last question. It is however the opinion of your committee, that a profane must apply to the same ☐, so long as he resides in the same jurisdiction, but not afterwards.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. H. GRANT,
M. W. GETCHELL, } Committee.
GEO. L. OTIS.

The special committee on Grand Master's address, made the following report:

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Minnesota:

Your committee to whom was referred so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as relates to non-affiliated Masons, beg leave to report:

That they have not had sufficient time to properly investigate a matter of so much importance, and therefore ask until the next meeting of the Grand ☐, to report thereupon.

F. M. CROSBY,
W. H. GRANT,
CHAS. TAYLOR. } Committee.

On motion of Brother A. T. C. Pierson, P.: G.: M.:, the resolution offered this morning, relative to the expulsion of Bro. Hadley, was withdrawn.

Brother A. T. C. Pierson, P.: G.: M.:, offered the following, which, upon motion, was referred to a special committee composed of Bros. L. Dearborn, F. M. Crosby, and W. H. Grant.

Whereas, several Grand [] have unfavorably criticized the action of this Grand [], in the expulsion of one of its members, in 1865, as appears by the printed Proceedings, page 545, but believe that the action of the Grand [], in that case, was correct, and that if the basis had been understood, our action would not have been thus criticized.

The Committee on [] U.: D.:, submitted the following :

To the M.: W.: Grand [] of Minnesota :

The committee to whom was referred the Work of [] U.: D.:, beg leave to submit the following report :

We have examined the records and reports of work done, and would recommend that charters be granted to the following [], to wit :

Golden Rule, Lakeland, Washington County ; Meridian, Chatfield, Fillmore county ; Ashlar, Eyota, Olmstead county ; Blue Earth, Blue Earth City, Faribault county ; Madelia, Madelia, Watonwan county ; Corinthian, Farmington, Dakota county ; Spring Valley, Spring Valley, Fillmore county ; Star in the West, Sauk Centre, Stearns county ; Illustrious, Plainview, Wabashaw county ; Chain Lake, Fairmount, Martin county ; Star, Rockford, Wright county.

From Northern Light [], U.: D.:, located at Fort Garry, no late returns or records have been received. In this the committee deem it proper to present the following facts : Fort Garry is situated on the northern confines of the State, several hundred miles from St. Paul, and far outside of the usual mail or transportation facilities, the mails being carried by dog trains, at long intervals, through the intervening wilderness, and often lost in transit. Transportation is mostly confined to the spring months. These facts may reasonably account for the non representation and non-receipt of the records and receipts of the []. The [] was originally organized under letters of dispensation, granted in 1863, to our present M.: W.: Grand Master and others, by G.: M.: Brother A. T. C. Pierson, and has been continued by dispensation of successive Grand Masters to the present time, and it would seem that the time has arrived when the [] should be relieved from its anomalous position. The committee have had the fullest assurance from responsible sources that the brethren comprising Northern Light [], U.: D.:, are men of excellent character, of good Masonic attainments, and of undoubted ability to carry on the work of the Order. After considering these facts they have arrived at the conclusion that it is wrong to make the remote position and consequent inability of these brethren to communicate with the Grand [], at its Annual Communication, a reason for depriving them of the benefit of a charter ; and therefore recommend that a charter be granted to them, to be issued as soon as they have made their returns to, and settled their accounts with the Grand Secretary, to the satisfaction of the Grand Master.

In the case of Temple [], located at Hutchinson, we find the records and Proceedings in a very confused and unsatisfactory condition, and from the evidence before your committee, are of the opinion that their work has been done in a very crude and imperfect manner. In view of the fact, however, that this [] is located quite a distance from any other [], and in an enterprising and thriving frontier town, furnishing abundant material for a [], your committee would recommend that a charter be granted to be issued to them when, in the opinion of the Grand Master, they shall have secured a suitable [] room, and shall have been sufficiently instructed to enable them to satisfactorily perform their work.

In the case of Brownsville ☐, located at Brownsville, no records or reports have been made, save an erroneous report to the Grand Secretary. It appears from that report, that the dispensation was granted to that ☐ nearly one year since, and, during that time, but one person has been raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason; your committee are unable to form any opinion as to their work, no member of the ☐, or other brother being present, who had witnessed it; we doubt the propriety of granting a charter to any number of brothers who do not take sufficient interest in a matter of so grave importance as to furnish a record of their proceedings, or provide some means whereby they may be communicated to the Grand ☐.

Forest City U. D., at Forest City, Meeker County, has not made any returns, but a verbal statement has been made to your committee as to the condition of said ☐, from which it appears that the ☐ has been in existence but a short time, and no work has been done, and they request a continuance of the dispensation, and your committee recommend that the dispensation be continued without additional expense.

Mystic Star ☐, at Rushford, Fillmore county, has made no returns to the Grand Secretary, nor furnished us with a record of their Proceedings, nor has a representative attended the Grand ☐. The remarks on Brownsville ☐ U. D., in the opinion of your committee, will apply with equal force to this ☐. Your committee having nothing before them regarding this ☐, can not recommend a charter to be granted. We prefer to leave the propriety of renewing the dispensation of this ☐ to the sound discretion of the Grand Master.

An application in regular form for a dispensation, to be granted to the brothers of Houston County, to form a ☐ at Houston, to be called Mystic Circle ☐, U. D., was referred to the committee. From such evidences as came before the committee, we are of the opinion that the good of the Order would be subserved by a compliance with the prayer of the petitioners, and would recommend that the Grand Master issue letters of dispensation, as usual in such cases.

A petition from 37 Master Masons for a dispensation or charter, at the pleasure of the Grand ☐, at Kasson, Dodge County, was referred to the committee.

In the investigation which the committee instituted on this subject they learned these facts:

1st. That a considerable number of the petitioners are non-affiliated Masons, who are desirous of becoming affiliated, and can not be well accommodated at any other place.

2d. That a number of the petitioners are members of adjoining ☐ and can not be well accommodated elsewhere.

3d. That Kasson is a young and thriving village on the railroad, and is likely to become a place of considerable importance, and as such to be the residence of large numbers of Masons.

4th. That it is three miles from Mantorville, which is off from the railroad that distance, and which is the seat of a ☐ already very considerable in numbers and importance; and

5th. That the near proximity of the proposed ☐ to the one in Mantorville, is the only objection made to the organization of the new ☐.

The view which the committee take of these facts, is this, that 37 Master Masons are entitled to an organization, or, in other words, a charter, when, in their own judgment, they cannot be accommodated in any other ☐, they forming themselves into a ☐ of average strength, and this view is strengthened when they take into consideration the fact that the increase of inhabitants must necessarily enlarge their numbers. The committee cannot perceive that the proposed ☐ will injuriously affect the ☐ at Mantorville, any more than two ☐ in a small western city disastrously affect each other.

Sixty of the petitioners are members of Mantorville ☐, a number which that comparatively strong body can well spare for the convenience of a large number of Masons, as well as their own. Besides, the committee are assured that the petitioners will in no case unite with Mantorville

□, the inconvenience of attending being too great. For these reasons the committee recommend that a charter be granted to said petitioners.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. Y. HYDE,
C. H. LINDSLEY, } Committee.
J. N. CASTLE.

On motion, the report of the Committee on □ U. D. was adopted, except that portion relative to granting a dispensation at Kasson.

On motion of Bro. W. H. Grant,

Resolved, That that portion of the report of the Committee on □ U. D., as relates to granting a dispensation to the brethren at Kasson, be laid on the table for the present.

On motion of Bro. Tayler the Grand □ was called from labor to refreshment until 7½ o'clock this evening.

EVENING SESSION—7½ O'CLOCK, P. M.

The M. W. the Grand □ was called from refreshment to labor, M. W. C. W. Nash, Grand Master, presiding.

The matter of granting a charter at Kasson was taken from the table, and after discussion, a vote was called by □, and there were 96 nays and 39 ayes.

That portion of the report of the committee was not adopted.

The special committee appointed at the last Annual Communication of the M. W. the Grand □, on uniformity of work, submitted the following report and recommendations, for the consideration of the Grand □:

1. That the State be divided into three, or as many districts as the G. M. may deem expedient, and that he appoint a District Deputy for each district, to continue in office 1, 2, and 3 years respectively, and so on, until their successors shall be appointed.

2. That the District Deputies meet on notice of the M. W. G. M., and agree upon "the ancient work," the G. M. to act with said Deputies in their labors, and if the work agreed upon by them be approved by him, that he authorize the same to be taught by said District Deputies, in their respective districts, and that said Deputies appear at the next meeting of the Grand □, and before that body exemplify the same fully, as agreed upon, and if approved by the Grand □, shall be taught and exemplified at each subsequent meeting of the Grand □.

3. That said District Deputies shall be required to attend each meeting of the M. W. G. M., and before that body exemplify the said work and lectures, and that they be paid the same mileage and per diem as the members of the Grand □, when so attending.

4. That no □ under this jurisdiction shall permit any one but legally authorized Deputies (or the Grand Master,) to lecture or instruct said □ in the work.

5. That for the purpose of communicating the work, □ of Instruction are recommended to the officers intrusted with its dissemination, in their respective districts.

6. That no □ U. D. shall be permitted to commence work, until properly instructed, and so certified to the G. M. by a District Deputy, or on personal examination by the Grand Master.

7. It shall be the duty of District Deputies to inspect the records of □

by them visited, and report to the Grand Master all ☐ which shall not have suitable halls to hold their meetings, that a remedy may be applied.

B. F. SMITH, }
G. L. OTIS, } Committee.
W. T. RIGBY. }

On the adoption of the resolutions of the committee, a vote of ☐ was called for on first resolution, which resulted as follows :

First resolution adopted on vote of ☐ , 112 ayes, 24 nays.	
The 2nd, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th resolutions adopted as read.	
On first resolution those ☐ voting in the affirmative were Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 17, 18, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53—34 ☐ , 3 votes each.....	102
Grand Officers.....	10
Total ayes.....	112
Those ☐ voting in the negative were Nos. 8, 11, 16, 23, 41, 45, 54, 7 ☐ , 3 votes each.....	21
P.: G.: ☐ Officers.....	3
Total nays.....	24

On motion of Bro. Camp, it was resolved that the report of the committee be placed on file in the Grand Secretary's office.

On motion of Bro. Chas. Taylor, it was resolved that all resolutions, or parts of resolutions, of the Grand ☐ conflicting with the foregoing, are hereby repealed.

G.: M.: C. W. Nash, called the Deputy G.: M.: to the chair.

An election for Grand ☐ Officers was held, the Deputy Grand Master appointing Bros. John Mullen and W. G. Dye, tellers, who announced the following as the result :

M.: W.: C. W. NASH, St. Paul, Grand Master.
R.: W.: R. A. JONES, Rochester, Deputy Grand Master.
R.: W.: S. R. MERRELL, Lake City, Senior Grand Warden.
R.: W.: S. Y. HYDE, St. Charles, Junior Grand Warden.
R.: W.: GEO. L. OTIS, St. Paul, Grand Treasurer.
R.: W.: W. S. COMBS, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

On motion, Bros. Pierson, Dearborn, and Grant were appointed a committee to announce to the M.: W.: G.: M.: elect the result of the election. The committee retired, and re-appeared with M.: W.: Brother C. W. Nash, who was received with G.: H.: by the G.: L.:.

M.: W.: C. W. Nash, G.: M.: , accepted the position of G.: M.: in a few appropriate remarks.

On motion of Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, P.: G.: M.: , the sum of one hundred dollars was voted to Bro. S. Y. McMasters for services as chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

On motion the Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment until 9 o'clock, A. M.

THIRD DAY.

MORNING SESSION—9½ O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor, G. . M. . C. W. Nash, presiding.

Prayer by G. . C. . Bro. S. Y. McMasters.

G. . M. . C. W. Nash announced the following as a Committee on Foreign Correspondence: Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, P. . G. . M. ., Rev. Bro. S. Y. McMasters, G. . C. ., and Bro. Luther Dearborn.

Bro. W. H. Grant offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That Bro. W. T. Rigby, D. . G. . M. ., be empowered to draw on the G. . T. . for his expenses in visiting ☐ during the past year, by request of the G. . M. .

Bro. Luther Dearborn offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the M. . W. . G. . M. . be empowered to draw on the G. . T. . for all expenses incurred by him in his official capacity as Grand Master, and that the sum of one hundred dollars be allowed in addition to the sum already drawn for expenses incurred by him during the past official term.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances made the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. . W. . Grand ☐ of Minnesota:

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances, to whom was referred the case of Bradford Lufkin, who was tried and expelled for unmasonic conduct, by North Star ☐ No. 23, would respectfully report :

That, in their opinion, no appeal having been taken by said Bradford Lufkin, as provided by Rule No. 9 of the Trial Code of this Grand ☐, that the case is not properly before your committee, and, in their opinion, no action can be taken by this Grand Body upon the case referred to us.

Rule No. 7 of the Trial Code, declares the verdict that may be pronounced by a Subordinate ☐; and if no appeal is taken within six months after the decision of the ☐, their verdict is final and conclusive.

Your committee to whom was submitted the application of Brother J. H. Tibbets, late a member of Shakopee ☐, No. 6, in this jurisdiction, asking to be restored to all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, have had the same under consideration, and have consulted with members of King Solomon ☐ No. 44, of Shakopee, and having ascertained that the action of Shakopee ☐ No. 6, suspending Bro. Tibbets for unmasonic conduct, was not in conformity to Masonic law or usage, and more than one year having elapsed since such action of Shakopee ☐, we therefore offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That Bro. J. H. Tibbets, late of Shakopee ☐, No. 6, be and he is hereby restored to all the privileges of Freemasonry.

All other questions of Appeal or Grievance having been referred to special committees, your committee have nothing further to report to the Grand ☐.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. E. THOMPSON,	} Committee.
L. DEARBORN,	
W. T. RIGBY,	
H. L. CARVER,	
F. M. CROSBY.	

Bro. H. D. Brown offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the District Deputies provided for by resolutions adopted yesterday, in visiting ☐ for the dissemination of uniformity of work within this jurisdiction, shall receive the sum of three dollars per day for the time necessarily employed, and the necessary expenses incurred in promulgating such work ; to be paid by the Grand Treasurer upon the order of the M. : W. : G. : M. : ; *Provided*, The expense is not paid by such ☐.

The committee on that part of the G. : M. : address relating to the appointment of a standing Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, submitted the following :

To the M. : W. : the Grand ☐ of the State of Minnesota :

Your committee to whom was referred that part of the Grand Master's address relating to the appointment of a standing committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, beg leave to report that they have had said matter under consideration, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Grand Master, upon Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom shall be referred all questions relating to the customs, usages, privileges and laws of the Fraternity, and the Grand Master shall make a report to the Grand ☐ at each Annual Communication, of all decisions made by him, upon questions of Masonic law during the year, which shall be referred to said committee, and the decisions, with the report of the committee, shall be published in the Proceedings of this Grand ☐.

And your committee further report and propose the following amendment to Sec. 92, Title 3, of the General Regulations of the Grand ☐, by adding thereto the following, to wit :

9th. A committee of three on Masonic Jurisprudence.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. TAYLOR, }
F. H. PRATT, } Committee.
A. W. BANGS. }

A vote of ☐ being called for on adopting the above resolutions, there was 123 voting in the affirmative, and none in the negative ; so the resolution was adopted.

The committee on pay-roll submitted the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. : W. : Grand ☐ of Minnesota :

Your committee appointed to prepare a Pay Roll, beg leave to offer the following report :

PAY ROLL OF GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	No. Days.	Per Diem.	Mileage.	Total.	To Whom PAID.
M. : W. : G. : M. : C. W. Nash.....	3	\$9 00	.....	\$9 00	C. W. Nash.
R. : W. : D. : G. : M. : W. T. Rigby.....	3	9 00	\$ 8 00	17 00	W. T. Rigby.
R. : W. : S. : G. : W. : Robert Stewart.....	3	9 00	14 00	23 00	Robert Stewart.
R. : W. : J. : G. : W. : S. R. Merrell.....	3	9 00	10 00	19 00	S. R. Merrell.
R. : W. : G. : T. : George L. Otis.....	3	9 00	.....	9 00	Geo. L. Otis.
R. : W. : G. : S. : W. S. Combs.....	3	9 00	.....	9 00	Wm. S. Combs.
W. : G. : Chaplain, S. Y. McMasters.....	3	9 00	.....	9 00	S. Y. McMasters.
W. : G. : Mar. E. D. B. Porter.....	3	9 00	13 00	22 00	E. D. B. Porter.
W. : G. : St'd B. : T. C. Shapleigh.....	3	9 00	6 00	15 00	T. C. Shapleigh.
W. : G. : Sw'd B. : H. D. Brown.....	3	9 00	18 75	27 75	H. D. Brown.
W. : S. : G. : D. : J. D. Jennings.....	3	9 00	10 00	19 00	J. D. Jennings.
W. : J. : G. : D. : W. T. Kittridge.....	3	9 00	.....	.....	Rep. Wilton ☐ .
W. : S. : G. : St'd Theodore Furber.....	3	9 00	5 00	14 00	Theodore Furber.
W. : G. : Tyler, A. Richardson.....	3	9 00	.....	9 00	A. Richardson.
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	201 75	.....

PAY ROLL OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

NAMES OF LODGES.	Number.	No. Days.	Per Diem.	Mileage.	Total.	Am't Dues Paid.	To WHOM PAID.
St. John's.....	1	3	\$9 00	\$3 00	\$12 00	\$ 72 50	J. N. Castle.
Catawact.....	2	3	9 00	1 00	10 00	90 50	M. W. Getchell.
St. Paul.....	3	3	9 00	.....	9 00	72 00	W. H. Grant.
Hennepin.....	4	3	9 00	1 00	10 00	132 50	E. A. Groff.
Ancient Landmark.....	5	3	9 00	.....	9 00	92 00	H. L. Carver.
Dakota.....	7	3	9 00	6 00	15 00	39 50	F. M. Crosby.
Red Wing.....	8	3	9 00	9 00	18 00	62 00	S. B. Foot.
Mantorville.....	11	3	9 00	12 20	21 20	36 00	J. R. Dartt.
Mankato.....	12	3	9 00	13 00	22 00	50 50	B. F. Smith.
Wapahansa.....	14	3	9 00	10 00	19 00	52 00	Wm. H. Robinson
Monticello.....	16	3	9 00	6 00	15 00	35 50	Geo. M. Bertram.
Hokah.....	17	3	9 00	16 00	25 00	35 00	S. J. Prentiss.
Winona.....	18	3	9 00	16 00	25 00	121 00	I. B. Cummings.
Minneapolis.....	19		.....	.....	.....	.....	Not represented.
Caledonia.....	20		.....	.....	.....	.....	do do
Rochester.....	21	3	9 00	13 00	22 00	121 50	R. A. Jones.
Pleasant Grove.....	22		.....	.....	.....	.....	Not represented.
North Star.....	23	3	9 00	11 00	20 00	48 00	J. K. Miller.
Wilton.....	24	3	9 00	9 50	18 50	29 00	W. T. Kittridge.
*Western Star.....	26		.....	.....	.....	19 00	.....
Blue Earth Valley.....	27	3	9 00	19 00	28 00	34 50	D. P. Weir.
Clearwater.....	28	3	9 00	8 00	17 00	19 00	T. C. Porter.
Morning Star.....	29	3	9 00	20 00	29 00	44 50	E. H. Kennedy.
Anoka.....	30		.....	.....	.....	.....	Not represented.
King Hiram.....	31	3	9 00	5 00	13 00	13 00	C. T. Metzner.
Sakatah.....	32	3	9 00	9 70	18 70	28 50	L. Z. Rogers.
Star in the East.....	33	3	9 00	7 50	16 50	40 50	J. W. Morford.
Oriental.....	34	3	9 00	10 00	19 00	20 00	Charles Parks.
Mount Moriah.....	35	3	9 00	6 00	15 00	44 50	E. P. Barnum.
Preston.....	36	3	9 00	22 50	31 50	43 50	H. A. Billings.
Mystic Tie.....	37		.....	.....	.....	.....	Not represented.
Washington.....	38	3	9 00	12 70	21 70	26 00	D. A. Shaw.
Fidelity.....	39	3	9 00	14 75	24 75	51 50	L. R. Hathaway.
Carnelian.....	40	3	9 00	10 00	19 00	55 00	W. W. Scott.
Hermon.....	41	3	9 00	12 00	21 00	21 00	William Bickford.
Hope.....	42	3	9 00	12 00	21 00	29 50	A. J. Snyder.
Harmony.....	43	3	9 00	15 00	24 00	35 50	Wm. N. Buswell.
King Solomon.....	44	3	9 00	3 00	12 00	45 50	H. S. Holton.
Union.....	45	3	9 00	8 00	17 00	47 00	A. W. Bangs.
Evergreen.....	46	3	9 00	15 40	24 40	28 00	R. B. Kilbourn.
Concord.....	47	3	9 00	10 00	19 00	26 50	Nelson Manney.
Social.....	48	3	9 00	4 60	13 60	54 00	O. L. Bicknell.
Rising Sun.....	49	3	9 00	14 00	23 00	38 00	S. Y. Hyde.
Watertown.....	50	3	9 00	9 50	18 50	52 50	Ernest Hainlin.
Aecia.....	51	3	9 00	5 00	14 00	42 50	O. G. Leonard.
Cannon River.....	52	3	9 00	9 40	18 40	50 00	G. W. Walworth.
Faribault.....	53	3	9 00	6 25	15 25	46 00	C. N. Daniels.
Nicollet.....	54	1	3 00	11 00	14 00	41 00	J. H. Snyder.
Zion.....	55	3	9 00	8 00	17 00	19 00	L. W. Folsom.
Total.....					\$796 00	\$2534 00	

* Bro. H. D. Brown represented this ☐, and drew pay as G. ☐ Officer.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. S. HOLTON, }
D. A. SHAW, } Committee.
J. K. MILLER. }

Bro. Cooley offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the office of Grand Lecturer is hereby abolished.

Bro. Lindsley offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the M. ☐ W. ☐ the G. ☐ are due to and are hereby tendered to Bros. Ossian E. Dodge, George C. Mott, Frank H. Pratt, Charles Etheridge, Frank Ely, and E. P. Barnum, for the rich and rare musical treat afforded by them to the Grand ☐, on several occasions during its session.

Bro. Geo. L. Otis offered the following, which was adopted.

Resolved, That P. D. G. M. L. E. Thompson, chairman of Committee on Appeals and Grievances, be allowed the usual per diem of members for three days attendance at this session of the Grand ☐.

Bro. Getchell offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the granting of a charter to open a new ☐ does not limit the members thereof from the ☐ to which they formerly belonged.

Which was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Bro. Thompson offered the following resolution, which, upon motion, was laid on the table.

Resolved, That Sec. 37, of Title 5, of the Grand ☐ Constitution, be amended by striking out the following words: "and the member shall thereupon become non-affiliated."

Bro. Geo. L. Otis offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the sum of two hundred dollars be appropriated to pay R. W. Wm. S. Combs, Grand Secretary, for his services during the past year.

Bro. Wm. H. Grant offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be and is hereby appropriated to W. A. Richardson, Grand Tyler, in consideration of his long and faithful services in said office.

G. M. C. W. Nash made the following appointments for G. :

☐ Officers :

W. Rev. S. Y. McMASTERS, St. Paul, Grand Chaplain.

W. GEO. M. TOUSLEY, Le Sueur, Grand Marshal.

W. O. L. BICKNELL, Northfield, Grand Sword Bearer.

W. J. N. CASTLE, Stillwater, Grand Standard Bearer.

W. W. W. SCOTT, Lake City, Senior Grand Deacon.

W. E. A. GROFF, Minneapolis, Junior Grand Deacon.

W. S. J. PRENTISS, Hokah, Grand Pursuivant.

W. H. L. Carver, St. Paul, Senior Grand Steward.

W. L. W. FOLSOM, Taylor's Falls, Junior Grand Steward.

W. A. RICHARDSON, St. Paul, Grand Tyler.

Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, W. H. Grant, Geo. L. Otis, and J. S. Norris.

On motion the resolution of Brother L. E. Thompson was taken from the table ; the roll of ☐ was called on adopting the same : there were 17 voting aye, and 80 voting nay ; so the resolution was not adopted.

Bro. W. H. Grant offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand ☐ that no Mason can be stricken from the roll of his ☐, for non-payment of dues, under section 37, of title 5, of the Constitution of this Grand ☐, except upon charges regularly preferred, and conviction after an impartial trial, where the accused shall have had the opportunity of making his defence.

Bro. L. Dearborn, from the special committee on O. A. Hadley's case, submitted the following report, which upon motion was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand [] of Minnesota :

The special committee to whom was referred the action of this Grand [] at its Annual Communication in 1865, expelling O. A. Hadley, the then Worshipful Master of Rochester [], No. 21, in this jurisdiction, would respectfully report :

That your committee were appointed and notified late last evening, and were unable, on account of the sitting of this Grand [], to act upon the same, giving the subject that careful examination its importance demands, and report at the present Communication of this Grand [].

Your committee would further report that the summary action of this Grand [] in the case referred to your committee, has been questioned by some of the Grand [] in the United States, as in violation of the usages of the Order.

Your committee therefore deem the questions involved and upon which we are expected to report for your consideration and action, are of so great importance, involving the action and justification of this Grand [], in jurisdictions where its action has been questioned, as to require further time for consideration by your committee. They would, therefore, ask leave to report at the next Annual Communication of this Grand [].

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LUTHER DEARBORN,	} Committee.
F. M. CROSBY,	
W. H. GRANT.	

Brother G. A. Camp offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That any Subordinate [] within this jurisdiction may remit the dues of any of its members who are unable to pay the same, and the Grand [] dues for such brethren will be remitted.

Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, P. G. M., from the special committee on that part of the G. M. address relating to the decease of the G. M. of Pennsylvania and District of Columbia, made the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand [] of Minnesota :

The committee to whom was referred that portion of the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, relating to the decease of the Grand Masters of Pennsylvania and District of Columbia, would most respectfully submit the following :

In Egypt, among our old masters, where Masonry was more cultivated than vanity, no one could gain admittance to the sacred asylum of the tombs until he had passed under the most solemn judgment. A grave tribunal sat in judgment upon all, even the kings. They said to the dead, whoever thou art, give account to thy country of thy actions. What hast thou done with thy time and life? The law interrogates thee, thy country hears thee, truth sits in judgment on thee. Princes came there to be judged, escorted only by their virtues and their vices. A public accuser recounted the history of the dead man's life, and threw the blaze of the torch of truth on all his actions. If it were adjudged that the accused had led an evil life, his memory was condemned in the presence of the nation, and his body was denied the honors of sepulture. Masons, although found in every clime and speaking all languages, form but one family or nation. It is therefore eminently proper that the memory of those who by their virtues and zeal in the cause of humanity, have achieved high position anywhere in the family or nation, should be cherished, and their virtues extolled by the brethren, as was the custom of the old Masonry.

All who deserve to live at all, desire that their memories shall live after their bodies are consigned to the cold and pitiless tomb. Our deeds live after us, and those influences for good or evil, are eternal. Were it not so our acts would be unimportant.

To a Mason it must be a powerful incentive to high achievements in virtue, and unceasing labors for the good of humanity, to know that however much his efforts may, during his life, pass unnoticed, unrewarded, or even meet with obloquy, reproach and ingratitude, yet after death the brethren, recognizing the eminent services rendered, and appreciating the influences of his virtuous acts, unite in bestowing upon his memory that meed of praise which becomes immortal.

If the soul sees, after death, what passes on this earth and watches over institutions it loved, then must those of our two deceased brethren be supremely happy in seeing the beneficent influences of their Masonic labors widening out from age to age, as rivulets widen into rivers and rivers into oceans, aiding and uniting with those who have gone before, and those who will follow, in the great end of the Masonic Institution, to wit: the restoration of man to his original status.

The writer knew each of the deceased M.: W.: brethren for many years—and with Bro. Whiting was on terms of peculiar intimacy—and must be permitted to say that the eulogistic remarks of our M.: W.: G.: M.: are, in each instance, appropriate and well deserved.

An episode in the life of M.: W.: Bro. Whiting, related to the writer by himself, many years since, may be proper to introduce in this report.

Bro. Whiting's father, (who was a R.: A.: Mason) was a clerk in one of the departments, in Washington, at the time of the election of Andrew Jackson to the presidency, and, as he had been a strong advocate of the Adams party, anticipated an early removal from office. President Jackson was in the habit of taking a walk each day after dinner; his daily walks carried him past the residence of Bro. Whiting. One day, to escape a sudden shower, the President stopped upon the porch, and young George noticed the smile of recognition as the two old men clasped hands. From that day until the death of the elder Whiting, (who, it is needless to say, retained his office), the President was a frequent guest.

On the death of the elder Whiting, General Jackson sent Amos Kendal to see the family; he remarked to George, "Give yourselves no uneasiness about pecuniary matters, the President will take care of you, and he desires that you will call upon him at your convenience." Some days after the funeral, Bro. Whiting called upon the President, who remarked, "My son, your father was my brother, and his family must be cared for; if it were not that there is a family looking up to you as the eldest, and whose immediate wants must be provided for, I would say to you, young man, take an axe on your shoulder and go west; as it is, I suppose you must be provided with a position here, but I much dislike the idea of your starting in life in an office in Washington." In a few days thereafter he was appointed to a position in the Treasury. His strict integrity and close attention to business, and remarkable urbanity to all having business with him, in each of the various positions to which he was from time to time promoted, secured him hosts of influential friends, and kept him in office until the day of his death.

The friendship, nay more, the brotherly affection exhibited by General Jackson for his father, and that, too, at a time when political feelings were so bitter, made a deep and lasting impression upon his mind, and he sought to penetrate the mystery at the earliest possible moment.

In conclusion, your committee would respectfully offer the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Grand ☐ of Minnesota has heard with profound regret of the decease of those eminent Masons, the M.: W.: John L. Goddard, Grand Master of Pa., and M.: W.: Geo. C. Whiting, G.: M.: of the D. C., and as an evidence of the high appreciation in which their memories are held in this jurisdiction, that the Grand Secretary be directed to devote a mourning page to each, inscribed with his name, age and Masonic rank.

Resolved, That a copy of our printed Proceedings be transmitted to the families of the deceased.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. T. C. PIERSON,	} Committee.
GEO. L. OTIS,	
SAM. E. ADAMS.	

Bro. Robt. Steward offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the M. W. G. M. of the State of Minnesota, the M. E. G. H. P. of the R. A. C., of the State of Minnesota, with three others, whom they will select, form a committee, whose duty it will be to select a suitable place for and inquire into the expediency of erecting a Masonic Hall in the city of St. Paul, and report at the next Communication of this Grand ☐.

The G. S. presented the appointment of P. G. M. G. W. Prescott as a Representative to this G. ☐ from the G. ☐ of Nova Scotia, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Bro. Luther Dearborn offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That M. W. C. W. Nash, M. W. P. G. M. A. T. C. Pierson, and G. C. S. Y. McMasters, be requested, and are hereby authorized, to arrange and publish in such form as they may deem advisable, for the use of the Subordinate ☐ in this jurisdiction, the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of this Grand ☐, now in force, together with such Resolutions as are designed for the instruction and government of Subordinate ☐.

Bro. H. Z. Rogers offered the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Ancient Landmarks :

Resolved, That no charter shall be issued to any ☐ U. D., until the W. M. shall certify that he has definite information that every charter member thereof has been regularly dimitted from the ☐ with which he has been previously affiliated.

Bro. Billings offered the following resolution, which was lost by a vote of 28 nays to 15 ayes :

Resolved, That mileage and per diem of one representative of each ☐ U. D., which shall receive a charter at this or future Communications of the M. W. Grand ☐ of Minnesota, be paid, under the rules regulating the payment for delegates of chartered ☐.

The G. ☐ was called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION—2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor.

Prayer by Rev. Bro. S. Y. McMasters, G. C.

Bro. McMasters submitted the following report from the special committee on G. M. address, which was adopted :

The committee to whom was referred so much of the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master as was not referred to other committees, beg leave to report, that they have had the same under consideration, and find no items claiming their particular attention, or calling for further action.

Your committee, however, would avail itself of the present opportunity, of expressing its profound satisfaction with the whole of that noble document, as replete with Masonic wisdom, and rich in literary merit, and they would recommend that the Master of every Subordinate ☐ cause it to be read in open ☐, so soon as it shall appear in printed form.

S. Y. McMASTERS, Chairman.

P. G. M. A. T. C. Pierson proceeded to install the Grand officers select, as follows :

M. W. C. W. NASH, St. Paul, Grand Master.
R. W. R. A. JONES, Rochester, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. S. R. MERRELL, Wabashaw, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. GEO. L. OTIS, St. Paul, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. W. S. COMBS, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

Bro. S. Y. Hyde, G. J. W. elect, not being present, R. W. Bro. R. A. Jones, D. G. M., was directed by M. W. C. W. Nash, G. M., to install him in his own ☐.

There being no further business, after prayer by the G. C. S. Y. McMasters, the Fifteenth Annual Communication of the Grand ☐ was closed in ample form, peace and harmony prevailing.

C. W. NASH, *Grand Master.*

William J. Combs
Grand Secretary.

SUMMARY OF GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT FOR 1867.

Wm. S. Combs, Grand Secretary, in account with the Grand ☐.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, as per report of committee on Secretary's and Treasurer's books.....	\$306 40
Dues from Subordinate ☐ , as per committee's report of ☐ Returns.....	2,534 00
1 Grand ☐ Register, sold to Mystic Circle ☐ , U. D.....	2 00
Charter to Blue Earth City ☐ , No. 57.....	25 00
Charter to Meridian ☐ , No. 56.....	25 00
Charter to Golden Rule ☐ , No. 65.....	25 00
Charter to Chain Lake ☐ , No. 64.....	25 00
Charter to Illustrious ☐ , No. 63.....	25 00
Charter to Temple ☐ , No. 59.....	25 00
Charter to Spring Valley ☐ , No. 58.....	25 00
Charter to Star ☐ , No. 62.....	25 00
Charter to Madelia ☐ , No. 66.....	25 00
Charter to Corinthian ☐ , No. 67.....	25 00
Charter to Ashlar ☐ , No. 61.....	25 00
Grand ☐ Register, to Sakatah ☐ , No. 32.....	2 00
Grand ☐ Register, to Hokah ☐ , No. 17.....	2 00
Grand ☐ Register, to Blue Earth ☐ , No. 27.....	2 00
Total receipts,	\$3,123 40

DISBURSEMENTS.

Pay Roll, (see Proceedings, pages 600 and 601,)... ..	\$997 75
Appropriations of Grand ☐ for 1867, (see Proceedings, pages 599 and 602,).....	509 00
	\$1,506 00
Balance in hands of Secretary,	\$1,616 65

GRAND TREASURER'S OFFICE, }
 ST. PAUL, Oct. 30, 1867. }

Received of W. S. Combs, Grand Secretary, the sum of sixteen hundred and sixteen dollars and sixty-five cents.
 \$1,616.65.

GEO. L. OTIS, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota,

IN MEMORIAM.

BRO. JOHN L. GODDARD,

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN PENNSYLVANIA,

DIED JULY 17TH, 1867, IN THE 55TH YEAR OF HIS AGE.

IN MEMORIAM.

Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia.

DIED SEPT. 4TH, 1867, IN THE 51ST YEAR OF HIS AGE.

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand [] of Minnesota:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to present their report for 1867. The jurisdictions whose transactions have come before your committee, are Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Colorado, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Canada.

ALABAMA.

This noble jurisdiction, after all the turmoil and strife of the late civil war, stands yet prominent in the bright sisterhood; her ardor not a whit abated, and her ancient landmarks, so far as we can perceive, untouched. Her last Annual Communication, at Montgomery, on the 3d of December, 1866, was well attended; and so far as appears, fraternal harmony prevailed. She reports 334 [] under her jurisdiction, including a membership of almost 11,000. She had been sorely afflicted, however, by deaths—nearly three closely printed columns being occupied with the names of those who had passed from their earthly labors in the course of the year. The number of her suspensions, too, was large, though many of these had been reinstated. Several, also, had been *expelled*. These notes serve to show that the standard of discipline is high, and that the moral reputation of the Order is well guarded. To her we extend the hand of cordial greeting, and are more than proud to do her reverence as an elder sister.

ARKANSAS.

The transactions of Arkansas show that her Annual Communication commenced business in the city of Little Rock, on the fifth day of November, A. W. L. 5866, (A. D. 1866) a goodly number of officers and brethren being present.

On a call of the roll, 108 Subordinate [] answered by their representatives. A beautiful thought, not less philosophical than poetic, appears in the opening paragraph of the M. W. Grand Master:

"Germination, growth, maturity, decay, death, and reproduction, are words which indicate the natural history of all the individuals, as well as of the numerous classes of animate nature. Life is ever springing—death is ever destroying. The vigorous sprout shoots from the mouldering trunk of the fallen tree. The vine covers with verdure the limbless and lifeless body of the blasted oak. The rose, planted by the hand of surviving affection, feeds upon the crumbling bones of the dead, whilst it blooms and blushes over the tomb. Nimble childhood sports and prattles by the side of tottering age. Inexorable death, with its ever whetted and all-devouring scythe, has been battling since the fall of Adam, for victory over life; but amidst the desolation and ruin which he produces, God the Creator, who is mightier than him, is ever animating and reproducing. Hence, there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again."

Thus beautifully is delineated the resuscitation of our Order in that greatly afflicted State, after the ravages of war.

The tables show 202 Subordinate  under the Grand Jurisdiction. The number of affiliated Masons in the State does not appear in the Proceedings; but judging from the deaths reported for the year, which seems appalling to us—over 200—and also from the number of , we judge that it must be very respectable. From the report of the Grand Secretary, we gather that the Order was greatly depressed during the civil war, and the year following; many of the  being partially disorganized, and all greatly discouraged.

Even at the last Communication, many of the  had not been able to bring up their arrearages of dues, and did not make their returns, nor send up their delegates. It is pleasing, however, to hear the gentle and sympathizing terms in which such cases are alluded to; and we trust the time is near when with bold and manly resolve all will cry out, "Arise and shine, for thy light is come!"

CONNECTICUT.

The seventy-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand  of Connecticut, was held in the city of Hartford, on the 8th and 9th of May, 1867, M. W. Grand Master Quintard presiding. The attendance was large, and the Proceedings harmonious. Of course, in so old and well organized a jurisdiction, no startling developments were to be expected. The address of the Grand Master was brief and direct, showing work done, and enlightened judgment exercised. We find 100  which made returns; and from the summary, we see that in the past year these have *initiated* 860. (As nothing is said of *passing* or *raising*, we suppose this means *made* 860 Master Masons); admitted 98; demitted 158; suspended 3; expelled 12; and buried 95; and the number of Masons is 10,629. The Committee on Correspondence made an able and full report, in the course of which a large measure of wholesome criticism was indulged on the work of other jurisdictions. If there were anything to criticise in

Connecticut, criticism would come with an ill grace from so young a Grand ☐ as Minnesota; and our condemnation of Connecticut would be unseemly. The Grand Secretary's report shows cash received, in the year, from Subordinate ☐, \$1,783.50.

COLORADO.

The latest Proceedings we have of this jurisdiction, is that of its first Annual Communication, which assembled in the city of Denver, on the 10th of December, 1861. Why its later transactions have not come to hand, we are not informed.

Of course, little material could be contained in the Proceedings of a Grand ☐, at its first Communication, beyond the routine of elections, and the necessary laying out of work for the future. No important reports of committees appear; and we are glad to observe that there was no "hot haste" in the way of legislation, in advance of experience. We all rejoice to extend the hand of fellowship to this young member of the Masonic commonwealth, and wish her a happy and glorious career in the noble cause in which she has enlisted. By the Foreign Correspondence of other Grand ☐, we hear cheering accounts of Colorado, as late as Nov. 6th, 1865, when her Annual Communication was held at Denver. So far as appears, all was then satisfactory.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

We have received the Proceedings of the M. W. Grand ☐ of the District of Columbia, which met at Washington City, on the 1st day of May, 1866, in semi-annual Communication; on June 18th in Special Communication, and on Nov. 6th, in Annual Communication. No address from the Grand Master appears; but the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is full, able, and generally satisfactory. Not to enter into some unpleasant altercation in which some of the ☐ of the District had become involved with certain western ☐, we have to remark, that there is evidence of life and activity, and a manifest purpose to stand by the ancient landmarks of the Order. The reports from 15 ☐ showed 1,978 Masons, and \$1,888.50 paid into the Grand Secretary.

This jurisdiction was greatly exposed during the late unhappy war, to danger of conflict with other jurisdictions. Washington was the great rendezvous of the army; and vast numbers of men, from all the northern and western States, were eager applicants for the Degrees before entering active service. As some of them took only part of the Degrees, and on their return home desired advancement, which involved correspondence with the ☐ of the District,

it is not wonderful that some painful misunderstandings should have occurred. All these, however, we are assured, will be satisfactorily adjusted, by appeal to the proper authorities.

DELAWARE.

The sixty-first Annual Communication of the M.: W.: Grand ☐ of Delaware, met in Wilmington on the 27th day of June, 1867, with a liberal representation of the Subordinate ☐. The M.: W.: Grand Master gave a short, but pointed address, which breathes the right spirit. No report appears from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence; but the reports of Subordinate ☐ are clear and satisfactory. The reports from 17 ☐ show a good number initiated, passed, and raised in the past year, and 868 Masons in good and full standing. When we consider the territory and population of the State, we must allow that Delaware has done well and is worthy of all praise.

FLORIDA.

From Florida we have received a well bound volume of nearly 500 pages, including all the Proceedings of the Grand ☐ from 1860-6, inclusive. As this seems to have been all printed in 1866, we infer that none of the Proceedings were printed after the commencement of the war, until last year. The Proceedings of Jan., 1867, have not come to hand, and hence, our latest observations must be confined to those of 1866.

The Grand ☐ met, that year, on the 8th of January, in the city of Tallahassee. The attendance was good; but the Grand Master's address was *sent*—he not being able to be present, in person. Its correspondence is extensive and voluminous, and contains much valuable material for Masonic history. From the Proceedings, for some years past, we gather that there has been dissatisfaction with former legislation; and the Constitution adopted in 1862, was manifestly intended to guard against evils which had been extensively felt. Owing to some informality in its adoption, however, it was abandoned in 1864, as an "unconstitutional Constitution," and the old one, of 1853, declared to be *the Constitution*. In the Communication of 1863, were set forth 168 rules, in the form of a digest, as embodying the spirit of the laws of the Grand ☐. These rules were criticised in the following year, and three of them repealed. Also, the ☐, in 1865, had announced to the Grand Master its continued adherence to the Constitution of 1862, and formally, by resolution, ignored that of 1853—declared by the Grand ☐ to be in force.

Altogether, the condition of things in Florida strikes us as somewhat unsettled and unsatisfactory. Nevertheless, the summary of

reports in 1866, shows strength and prosperity. There had been, in the past year, 341 initiations, 109 rejections, 3 expulsions, 3 suspensions, 21 "stricken from the roll for N. P. dues," and the number of Masons in good standing was 1,495. With so much material and real vitality, we feel assured that Florida must, at an early day, set herself entirely right, and stand forth in beauty and strength, an ornament to the fair sisterhood, of which she has ever been an honored member.

INDIANA.

Indiana yet stands "first among her equals," and makes her voice to be heard, more by practical work than by elaborate discussion. Her Grand ☐ assembled at Indianapolis, in Annual Communication, on the 28th day of May, 1867, and after being duly opened, was regaled by an able and spirited address from the Grand Master. This was the fiftieth Annual Convocation of the Grand ☐; and her reports show that her first half century has not been unproductive of results. With 334 ☐ under charter, and 28 under Dispensation, and 18,265 Masons, she takes a high position in the Masonic calendar, and challenges respect. In the past year, Indiana has initiated 2,663, passed 2,496, and raised 2,633, while 838 have been affiliated, and 180 reinstated. In the same time she has dimitted 1,404, suspended 221, expelled 85, and buried 186. Her net increase, in the past year, has been 2,011—after all her losses, as above indicated.

ILLINOIS.

From the "Prairie State," we have the most cheering accounts. Her Grand ☐ assembled in Chicago on the 2d of October, 1866, Grand Master Bromwell presiding, and was opened "in due and ancient form." The address of the Grand Master was full of good cheer and real encouragement. "Never in the history of Masonry," he said, "has there been known, or enjoyed, by the Craft, a season of such prosperity as has been witnessed throughout our country during the year just closed. In this jurisdiction, the increase has been unexampled; and at the same time peace and harmony have prevailed beyond all expectation. Internal peace, throughout the jurisdiction, is met by cordial fraternity between this Grand ☐ and all others throughout the world. In fact, so far as I am advised, every Grand ☐ in the world is at peace with all others. It would seem that, as among Masons, the temple of Janus might now be closed."

Illinois numbers, on her calendar, 458 Subordinate ☐; and the number of Masons in each ☐ is given; but as the Grand Secretary

has not footed them, and as your committee is pressed for time, it is inconvenient to give the results. It is earnestly hoped that the practice may soon become universal, of Grand Secretaries, while preparing their minutes for press, carefully footing up every column of their tabular statements, so that the reader may, at a glance, see the entire results. In no State of our great and ever expanding West, we venture to assert, have the workings and practical results of Masonry been more satisfactory than in Illinois. May her wise conservatism be ever equal to her numerical strength.

IOWA.

The Annual Communication of the M.: W.: Grand ☐ of Iowa was held in Davenport, commencing on the 4th of June, 1867. In the absence of the Grand Master, R.: W.: D.: G.: M.: Mickel presided.

The address of the Grand Master, however, was *sent*, and its reading must have given unfeigned satisfaction to all. As a printed document, it is rich in thought, and, with a few exceptional features, shows a Master ripe in experience. It reports 26 Dispensations granted in the past year for the opening of new ☐, and shows a vast amount of labor performed. As is suggested by the Grand Master himself, it might seem, to some, that the expansion was premature, or over rapid; but whoever considers the rapid growth of that State, and the intense activity which marks its whole character, cannot be at a loss to account for the rapid growth of its Masonry. A marked feature of this jurisdiction is its Schools of Instruction, in which the best workmen are obtained, as teachers and the representatives of a large number of ☐ gathered, and kept together for days, and even weeks. Of course, we need not to be assured of the good results of such drill. Few ☐ could fail to be greatly benefited by like opportunities.

The summary shows 213 ☐ enrolled; 5 under Dispensation; 120 represented; 26 organized; 25 chartered; 20 extinct, and 193 working. Initiated, in the past year, 1,381; passed, 1,186; raised 1,107; admitted, 558; dimitted, 627; died, 63; suspended for non-payment of dues, 75; suspended for offences, 12; expelled, 22; reinstated, 34; present number of members, 8,468; cash received by Grand ☐, \$6,238.00; and disbursements, \$5,638.48.

The Grand Master concludes his address thus:

"The Masonic Order was never more prosperous in our own jurisdiction, as well as elsewhere, than at present; and at no time in the past has it been more necessary for us to exercise caution, and not open our doors indiscriminately to all who may knock for admission. It should be our earnest endeavor to unite with us as many good and true men as we can, and thus enlist under our banner an army of upright and educated Masons

"to fight" with us "the good fight," and labor incessantly for the cause so dear to us all. We should at all times bear in mind, that every member is either beneficial or injurious, and none merely useless. We should not, because our ship is now sailing gallantly onward with a calm sea and a clear horizon, compose ourselves for slumber, but in prosperity we should prepare for adversity. It has been beautifully said that "A man's life is laid in the loom of time to a pattern which he does not see, but God does; and his heart is a shuttle. On one side of the loom is sorrow, and on the other joy; and the shuttle, struck alternately by each, flies back and forth, carrying the thread, which is white or black, as the pattern needs; and in the end, when God shall lift up the finished garment, and all its changing hues shall glance out, it will then appear that the deep and dark colors were as needful to beautify as the bright and high colors."

KENTUCKY.

The sixty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand ☐ of Kentucky was commenced in Louisville on Monday, the 15th of October, 1866. This, the Grand Master justly designates as "The Pioneer Grand ☐ of the West." During the late war, Kentucky was, in a good degree, the battle ground of contending armies; and in that time, many Masonic altars were broken down, and their fires extinguished. Now, many of those altars have been rebuilt; and again the fire of zeal and brotherly love is kindled. Beside these, many new altars have been reared, and the "mystic circle," now greatly enlarged, is daily receiving new accessions of strength. The amount of Masonic charities conferred, in and about Louisville, during the war, has been very great, and truly praiseworthy; and yet, after immense expenditures, the financial condition of the jurisdiction was never better,—the dues paid into the treasury of the Grand ☐ amounting to \$16,188.75. The number of ☐ on the list is 449, of which 14 are marked U. S. D. S. The number of initiations reported is 2,494. [No report of passing and raising.] Deaths, 187; suspensions, 344; expulsions, 35; present number of Masons, 15,157.

In Louisville, the number of strangers who have died, within the last few years, has been so great, that the want of a Masonic burying ground was keenly felt; and the Grand ☐ was earnestly requested to make an appropriation for the purchase and fitting up of a cemetery, or part of a cemetery, to meet such want. The request was, in a limited degree, granted, and measures inaugurated for carrying it out in future, to entire satisfaction. We would call attention to this great and pressing want in the larger cities of Minnesota. Our salubrious climate is, every year, being sought by vast numbers of invalids, many of whom die in a strange land, among strangers, and are known only as *Masons*. For these cases, there should be a Masonic burying ground, or Masonic department in the public cemeteries of all our large cities. We trust this will receive careful attention.

KANSAS.

The eleventh Annual Communication of the M.: W.: Grand □ of Kansas convened in the city of Topeka, on the 16th of October, 1866, M.: W.: Grand Master Sayre, presiding, and was opened in ample form. The address of the Grand Master was sensible, practical, and to the point; though exception is likely to be taken to some of his *points*. The correspondence is extensive; and the report of its committee shows a good share of observation and investigation.

At the close of the Proceedings, we find, set forth, "The old Charges of Free and Accepted Masons, extracted from the ancient Records of □, and ordered to be printed by the Grand □ of England, in the editions of the Constitution of 1738 and 1746." These are exceedingly aluable, and might be profitably read once a year, in every Subordinate □.

The number of Subordinate □ reported was 50; and these report having, in the past year, initiated 339, passed 276, raised 241, admitted 122, dimitted 140, suspended 39, and expelled 7. 25 had died, and 170 had been rejected; and the number of Masons reported was 1,470. The dues received by the Secretary of the Grand □ was \$856.

So far as appears, there are no discordant notes among the □; and the only strife is, "who can best work, and best agree."

LOUISIANA.

The fifty-fifth Annual Communication of the M.: W.: Grand □ of Louisiana, commenced in New Orleans, on Monday, the 11th of February, 1867. Eighty □ were represented, ten of which were U.: D.: M.: W.: Grand Master Perkins delivered a sensible and practical address, in which he showed that his office had not been a *sinecure*, nor a mere honorable position. 196 □ appear on the calendar; but only 123 made returns. From these, were reported for the past year, initiated, 918; passed, 675; raised, 647; affiliated, 348; dimitted, 522; died, 180; stricken from the roll, 123; suspended, 12; expelled, 9; reinstated, 48; total number of Masons remaining in 123 □, 2,197. Of course, returns from the 73 □ not heard from would swell the number very greatly.

It is observable, that in this, as in many others of the southern jurisdictions, a large proportion of the Subordinate □ asked, and obtained, a remission of their dues in whole or in part, and yet, the treasurer's report shows \$4,091.12 in the treasury on the first day of January. At no time, perhaps, has Masonic benevolence, in our country, been so severely taxed as in the Southern States, for the last six years, nor is there any prospect of relief from these burthens

for many years to come ;—not while the present generation of widows and orphans remains. The temper and spirit of the jurisdiction is good and healthy, so far as appears in the published Proceedings, and we join with all good and true Masons in the fervent prayer, that Louisiana may, at no distant day, emerge from “the calamities of war, and shine with a richer lustre than ever before.”

MISSISSIPPI.

We have received the Proceedings of the forty-ninth Grand Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand ☐ of Mississippi, which assembled at Vicksburg on the 21st of January, 1867, and sat four days. The attendance was large, and the interest manifested such as to show that Masonry in Mississippi is in no danger from inactivity. In the Grand Master's address, as in some other parts of the Proceedings, we regret to see indications of a little “root of bitterness,” resulting from the late war, and political agitations yet going on. Toward these little improprieties, however, a liberal charity should be exercised, for it is, perhaps, hardly to be expected, that so much that is unpleasant can be forgotten at once. Time is the only soother of such sorrow.

Much trouble seems to have been experienced from the great number of non-affiliated Masons. Some, it would seem, obtain dimitts ostensibly to join other ☐, but really, to avoid the payment of dues. Doubtless, this comes, in a good degree, from the general financial embarrassment of the country. The financial system of the jurisdiction is somewhat embarrassed by the payment, and non-payment of dues in confederate currency, during the war ; and questions are now raised, in reference to certain ☐, whether or not they are in arrears with the Grand ☐. It is manifest that the Grand Secretary has labored to make a fair exhibit of the true state of every case ; and, doubtless, the result will be satisfactory. Altogether, we think there is little room for complaint.

The Grand Treasurer acknowledges the receipt, in the past year, of \$13,577.77. Of this, he has paid out for various legitimate purposes, including a large part of the current expenses of two years, \$12,228.49, leaving in hands of the treasurer, \$1,349.28. We enter thus into particulars, only to show how great must be the resources of the Order in Mississippi, when her present burthen shall have been thrown off, and her financial system fully re-adjusted. The number of ☐ in the jurisdiction is not far from 300. The highest number is 300, and there is one other marked U. D. (under Dispensation ;) but a few, we gather, have become defunct.

Of these, 225 made returns, and from them are reported, initiated, 1,215 ; passed, 1,113 ; raised, 1,087 ; admitted, 721 ; dimitted, 993 ;

suspended for non-payment of dues, 1,740 ; suspended for unmasonic conduct, 21 ; expelled, 28 ; reinstated, 332 ; died, 226 ; total number of Master Masons reported, 9,618.

Altogether the report is satisfactory, and most gratifying, and we feel assured that the late trials of Mississippi have served only

“ Her dross to consume, and her gold to refine.”

May she yet flourish as her own blooming gardens, whose spicy fragrance, once enjoyed, can never be forgotten !

MAINE.

The Grand □ of Maine met in Annual Communication, at Portland, on the 7th of May, 1867, Grand Master Murray presiding, and was opened in due and ancient form. A large part of the Grand Master's address was devoted to the subject of the fearful conflagration which occurred in Portland, on the 4th of July, 1866 ;—of the suffering in the Fraternity, and of the generous flow of Masonic charity from all quarters, to relieve that suffering. Calamities of this sort are less to be regretted, when they call out so much that is generous and noble in the human heart. They present humanity in a more interesting light, and give confidence and trust in its capabilities for good.

The Grand Master is greatly opposed to the practice of Dispensations for conferring Degrees before the canonical time, merely for the purpose of gratifying the spirit of *haste*. He rejoices, that in the past year, he has had but three calls for such Dispensations, and adds that had there been *none*, his pleasure would have been three times as great as it was. In this view, he is unquestionably right. The canons of the Order should not be suspended for the gratification of the mere whims and impulses of impulsive men. On this point, his remarks are so much to the purpose, that we beg leave to copy a paragraph :

“ Among the most ancient of the laws of organized Masonry is the provision that no man can be made a Mason, “ without previous notice, one month before, given to the □, in order to make due inquiry into the reputation and capacity of the candidate, unless by a Dispensation.” So important was considered this enactment, that a single officer, the Grand Master alone, of any division or territory, was authorized to dispense with this provision, and permit the admission of candidates at a shorter period. It is also undoubtedly true that this authority in former times was rarely exercised, and then only on extraordinary occasions for the *good of the Order*. At the present time this authority has been much extended, and in some jurisdictions, like our own, several Grand Officers are permitted to exercise it although it is very questionable if this extension of the privilege has been of good results.”

He also complains of the great ease with which visitors are admitted into □, and urges that the mere fact of their being *Masons* is not all that should be established. “ Proper vouchers” of good

Masonic character, he insists, should be required, before the stranger is admitted. How far this is practicable, must be determined by the sober judgment of the Master. The principle is, unquestionably a sound one, but must be judiciously applied.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence has an elaborate report, in which respectful notice is taken of most of the jurisdictions, and in which many valuable criticisms are thrown out. The "Abstract of returns of []" shows the number of Masons initiated in the past year to be 1,678; rejected, 636; deceased, 174; non-affiliated, 456; and the total number of affiliated Masons, 11,491. Much stress is laid, by this jurisdiction, on the importance of the maxim, "Guard well the outer door;" and a table is prepared from the Proceedings of 30 Grand [], out of 54, showing the increase from all causes in a single year, and the number rejected. These 30 Grand [] had 321,451 Masons; and in the same year, previous to this numbering, they had initiated 51,337; admitted and restored, 8,707; expelled, 523; suspended for non-payment of dues, 2,483; suspended for unmasonic conduct, 2,004; buried, or lost by death, 4,585, and rejected, 9,680. This shows that Masons have not yet forgotten how to use the "black-ball."

MARYLAND.

The Annual Communication of this jurisdiction occurred in Baltimore, Nov. 19th, 1866. This body differs from most others, we believe, in that it publishes its Proceedings semi-annually—having two regular sessions in a year. It has, moreover, an intermediate body between itself and the Subordinate [], called the "Grand Steward's []." Not fully understanding the nature of this body, we can only say that it transacts a great deal of the business which ordinarily comes before the Grand [].

The address of the M. . W. . Grand Master was short, pathetic, and eloquent. The interest of the session was greatly heightened by the public ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the Masonic Temple in the city of Baltimore. In connection with this, occurred a very interesting episode, soon after the organization of the Grand [], as will appear from the following extract from the journal:

P. . G. . M. . Anthony Kimmel addressed the M. . W. . Grand Master as follows:

SIR:—Mount Nebo [], of our sister jurisdiction of the State of Virginia, has been pleased to send to this grand occasion, by its members,

"THIS MASONIC APRON,"

the handiwork of the fair daughters of the chateau "*La Grange*," and by them presented to the "*Grand Orient*" of La Belle France, with which, this, our Grand [], has been for years in fraternal communication.

When our enfranchised fellow citizen of Maryland, our venerated brother of this Grand ☐

“THE LA FAYETTE,”

visited our beloved country previous to the present century, the “*Grand Orient*” forwarded by, and by that good brother, presented in its name.

“THIS APRON,”

to our brother of Virginia, the great, the immortal

“WASHINGTON,”

which that illustrious chieftain on all occasions wore with great gratification to himself, and the highest delight to his adoring countrymen, and especially on the Great Masonic Festival, the *laying* of the *corner-stone* of the

“CAPITOL OF THE UNITED STATES.”

Upon the demise of that illustrious brother, this relic fell to the lot of one of the Washingtons in the vicinity of Martinsburg, Virginia, the location of Mount Nebo, who generously bestowed it to the charge of that ancient ☐, which tendered its use to all the ☐ of its vicinity and to the admiring gaze of the *Craft*, on all occasions within its range, and on this occasion to the delight of Craftsmen.

This apron is embroidered on *white satin*, and is of common size, the square and compass, the points of the latter above the square, interwoven with branches of the *Cassia*, the whole surmounted with the star-spangled banner and the stripes of our land, and the lily flags, and the *mallet* of the Grand Master, the whole emblematic of the Revolutionary Alliance of the two nations, which consummated the independence of our beloved land, now happily restored, under the guidance of our distinguished brother, President ANDREW JOHNSON, Past Grand Master* of the Masons of Tennessee.

The ceremonies connected with the laying of the corner-stone of the Hall were very imposing, so far as we can judge from the programme, and the oration, delivered by Bro. John H. B. Latrobe, P. M. P. H. P., &c., was a treat such as is rarely enjoyed.

We find that 54 Subordinate ☐ made returns. These reported 223 Entered Apprentices; 150 Fellow Crafts; and 3,869 Master Masons. In the year they had initiated 249; dropped 33; suspended 4, and expelled 4. 82 had withdrawn, and 17 had died. Owing to the very large Masonic charities of the past year, the balance sheet of the Grand Treasurer is not quite such as could have been desired. Upon the whole, we judge that the Communication was eminently satisfactory to all present.

MICHIGAN.

From this jurisdiction we have the Proceedings of the Annual Communication which met on the 9th of January, 1867.

Grand Master Coffinbury delivered an admirable address, in which he showed himself a man of fine literary taste, and well posted in the literature of the Craft. The tables show 223 ☐ in this jurisdiction, 34 of which are under dispensation. The work, for the past year is, initiated, 2,679; dimitted, 1,038; expelled, 38; sus-

* Was President Johnson ever Grand Master of Tennessee?

pended, 130 ; rejected, 1,660 ; buried 99 ; present number, 13,164, and the amount of dues to the Grand , \$6,300.25. The large number of rejections shows that the "outer door" is well guarded, and that none are *intended* to be admitted who are not known to be worthy. Altogether, we feel proud of Michigan, and have no doubt of the soundness of her work. At no distant day she must be one of the noblest of our Grand .

NEW JERSEY.

Grand met in annual session at Trenton, on the 16th of January, 1867, M. . W. . Grand Master Silas presiding. Sixty-eight were represented. The M. . W. . Grand Master, in his address calls attention to what he conceives to be an evil, in the practice of Masonic bodies applying to the State for acts of incorporation. We venture to quote him :

My attention was attracted, during the last session of the legislature of this State, to the numerous applications to that body for the passage of acts incorporating Subordinate . Such applications are made by the brethren, undoubtedly with the best intentions, but without due reflection, and without realizing the legal effect and operation of such legislation. I have lately given this subject some examination, and the conclusion to which I have arrived is, that the incorporation of Masonic bodies is subversive of the true principles of Masonic government, and inimical to the prosperity and perpetuity of the Institution. As my objections to such applications are generally of a legal character, I must be pardoned if my remarks upon this subject may smell somewhat of the shop.

When a is incorporated by an act of the legislature, it becomes a subject of the laws of the State, just as is an individual citizen, with certain exceptions. It not only acquires the right to hold and convey real estate, and invest personal property in the name, but it also renders itself liable to be sued in its corporate capacity, and submits itself and concerns to the supervision and control of the courts of law. By the rules of government of our Institution, a brother who feels aggrieved by the action of his , has the right of appeal to the Grand . If, however, he should be fractious and indisposed to submit himself to the adjudication of the Grand , he has the power, if the be incorporated, to appeal directly to the judicial tribunals. If he has been expelled by his for a Masonic offence justifying such punishment, courts of law have the power—denied by some of the ablest and wisest of Masonic writers even to the Grand itself—to restore the offending brother into full and complete membership in the from which he has been expelled.

This he proceeds to illustrate by sundry cases, in Binney's Pennsylvania reports, and other legal authorities. It is certainly a matter worthy of careful consideration, and we hope it may not be dismissed with a jest.

New Jersey reports eighty Subordinate , with 5,986 Master Masons, 185 Fellow Crafts, and 350 Entered Apprentices. She has buried 80 in the past year, expelled 6, and suspended 76.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand of North Carolina met in Annual Communication, in the city of Raleigh, on the 3d of December, 1866, M. . W. . G. .

M.: Reade presiding. Over one hundred [] were represented, and all seemed to be of one voice and heart. The Grand Master's address is brief, but to the point, and full of paternal tenderness. In the course of his beautiful illustrations, he gives the following instance of that true Masonic charity, "which loves to bless unseen:"

"Not many years ago a worthy mechanic moved to a city from a distant State, and died before he had made acquaintances, and left his family destitute. The weather was most inclement; their home was cheerless; the mother was sick; the children hungry. One thing after another had been sold for bread, until all was gone. A crisis seemed at hand. They must die or beg. Again she searched to see if nothing remained. She found, neatly folded, a lambskin or white leather apron, the emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason, which she had seen her husband wear in Masonic processions. The tear came, the voice sobbed and the heart sank. Could she part with it? Was it of any value? Would any one have it? Necessity compelled. She offered it to a merchant. He asked many questions; wrote her name and residence; supplied her wants, and bid her call again. Soon might be seen a group talking earnestly together; soon the widow's uncomfortable tenement was exchanged for a neat cottage; the floor was carpeted; the furniture appropriate; the fire blinked bonnily; the children were fed and clad, and gleesome, and the widow's heart was happy, and

"Carol'd light as lark at morn."

"And yet no one knew who did it, and none sought praise for it. This is one of your secrets, brethren, for which the world censures you.

"Religion fits men for heaven, and that is the best. Masonry fits men for the world, and that is the next; and these two are friendly to each other."

In the course of the Proceedings, it appears that an unpleasant misunderstanding has occurred between this, (N. C.,) jurisdiction, and two of the [] of Halifax, Nova Scotia. As it may be of some general interest, we give the statement of it, as it appears in the report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence:

To the M.: W.: G.: [] of North Carolina:

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the information, filed at the last Grand Communication of this Grand Body, by St. John's [] No. 1, in this jurisdiction, against Athol [] No. 65, and Keith [] No. 36 or 61, Halifax, Nova Scotia, working under the jurisdiction of the Grand [] of England, beg leave to report:

That a paper writing was placed in their hands, in words and figures following:

ST. JOHN'S HALL, Wilmington, N. C., {
Nov. 24th, 1864, A.: L.: 5864. }

At a regular meeting of St. John's [], No. 1, held this day, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, It has been represented to this [] that certain persons, residents of this jurisdiction, and some of them rejected petitioners to this [] for the Degrees in Masonry, have visited Halifax, N. S., and there received the Degrees; therefore,

Resolved, That our delegates to the next meeting of the Grand [], be instructed to call the attention of that body to the subject, and furnish it with all the facts within their knowledge.

M. H. WOODLUELL, Secretary.

A true copy from the minutes, Nov. 1st, 1865.

W. M. POISSON, Secretary,
St. John's [], No. 1.

The committee have made some investigations relative to this matter, and find, that in the year 1865, a vessel left the port of Wilmington, running the blockade, and in her voyage, touched at Halifax, Nova Scotia, for three days. That during these three days, 13 persons aboard the blockader, whose names we know, and there were others also, but their names are not known, applied to and received from Keith [] No. 65, and Athol [] No. —, the three Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry. These thirteen men were citizens of Wilmington, N. C., residing within the jurisdiction of St. John's [] No. 1, of this Grand [], and a majority of them had been rejected by said []. One of the number in taking his Degree, was so drunk that he did not go through, but had to be helped through. A brother from this jurisdiction objected to the proceedings as a gross violation of the jurisdiction of St. John's [] No. 1, and this Grand Body. The reply was, "that they worked the Scotch Rite and could do as they pleased."

This action of these two Nova Scotia [], your committee can but regard as a palpable violation of the jurisdiction of this Grand Body, and as no less a violation of the spirit and design of Masonry. Could we for a moment look with approval upon any [], which could pick up any wanderer, sojourner or straggler through the world, and clothe him in the habiliments of Masonry? Could any Mason, having decent self respect, look upon the indiscriminate crowding into the Temple by mere adventurers, with anything but reprobation? And then with such indecent haste, for two [] to put over 13 men through the three Degrees in three days, and that, too, with a brother sitting by, protesting against its violation of the jurisdiction of this Grand []! The case stands, in plain English, thus: Thirteen men run the blockade from Wilmington, stop three days at Halifax, N. S., to coal. Many of them had been rejected by St. John's []. In the three days they receive the Degrees, and come back and shake their illgotten glory in the face of Wilmington [] tauntingly.

The general rules and regulations of Masonry, the great common love of Masonry, forbid any such. For whoever heard of [] introducing those who had no residence? These adventurers had no idea of settling in Halifax; much less did they settle. The *animus revertendi* was always present; their design was, as soon as loaded with freight, to return to Wilmington. Yet with all these lights before them, the two [] of Halifax, N. S., clothed them with the garments of the Order, and sent them back to their Wilmington brethren, saying by their actions: "These men had their residence in Wilmington, you black-balled them, they come over the waters to us, we judged them and found them good and true, and fit stones for the Temple. You judged wrongly; you of Wilmington could not see these men in their virtue and purity, but we can; and we send them back to you to rebuke you, and place material in your Temple which you had rejected." We do not wonder that the Wilmington [] called the attention of this Grand Body to this fact; for what [] could view such actions without indignation?

Their excuse that they worked the Scotch Rite, which gives them the right to introduce every traveling adventurer, is rather slim. Your committee know of no difference between the Scotch Rite and the York Rite, save a small interlude between the first and second sections of the M.'s. Degree. It has been worked in [] in N. C., and for many years was quite common, until the Grand [] suppressed it. These Halifax [] had no right to work the Scotch Rite. They belong to the Grand [] of England, and were excepted from the jurisdiction of the Grand [] of Canada, when she was recognized by the Grand [] of England; and no descendant of the Grand [] of England, nor any [] under her jurisdiction, has the right to use the Scotch Rite; for the York Rite has always pronounced it to be a *fungus* on the Master's Degree. These [] probably might have meant the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and were working under that; if so they are clandestine [], as was expressly decided by all the Grand [] in America and in Europe, and in the Louisiana affair some few years ago.

The action of the Masonic Congress at Paris expressly laid down as a principle that petitioners for the honors of Masonry must have a fixed

residence; and it does seem strange that legislation should ever have been necessary on that point. For no one at all conversant with the principles and designs of Masonry, could for a moment tolerate such a practice. Did St. John's [] lose her jurisdiction of these men when they had left the port of Wilmington with the design and intention of returning soon? Certainly not. Their residence was in Wilmington, and St. John's [] alone could entertain their petition. Whenever they had moved their residence to another place, then the jurisdiction of the [] would attach in which they had settled and taken a fixed place of residence. And this practice of admitting sojourners has been so often prohibited by this G. [], that while she would not suffer South Carolina to receive such persons, and remonstrates to that Grand Body in a case precisely similar to this, and the Grand [] of S. C. called the Subordinate [] to account—neither will this Grand Body suffer the Halifax [] to do the same thing without being called to account, and this Grand [] entering her protest against any such proceedings. The fact that Nova Scotia is further off than South Carolina makes no difference in the principle. The decisions of this Grand [], made time and again, set that matter at rest, and have surely fixed the principle that this Grand [] claims jurisdiction over every man within the limits of N. C. who has a residence in the State, and that she claims that jurisdiction, no matter where the person may go, until he changes his residence. And as to the right of admitting sojourners, this Grand [] has never for one moment tolerated any such idea. Your committee would only call attention to decisions of that Grand [] relative to these matters as sustaining the views herein advanced by your committee.

G. L. Pro., 1858, pp. 15 and 58. G. L. Pro., 1852, p. 51, &c.

Your committee would therefore offer the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, A paper writing containing information as to a violation of the jurisdiction of that Grand Body from St. John's [], No. 1, Wilmington, N. C., alluded to above, has been laid before this Grand [],

Therefore be it resolved by the Grand [] of North Carolina, in Grand Communication assembled, That this Grand Body views the action of Keith [], No. —, and Athol [], No. —, in the premises, as violating the jurisdiction of this Grand Body, and that the action, by those Subordinate [], is at variance with the fundamental principles of Masonry, and subversive of its best interests.

Resolved further, That this Grand Body direct the Grand Secretary to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the Grand [] of England.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. HAPPOLDT, } Committee.
R. W. YORK.

By reference to the tables, we observe the following recapitulation of reports:

Number of members returned, 8,828; number of resident Masons not returned, 839; whole number, 9,667. Number of [] making returns in the year 1866, 137; initiated, 671; passed, 640; raised, 630; admitted, 200; rejected, 343; suspended, 4; expelled, 22; reinstated, 1; withdrawn, 392; died, 109; resident Masons excluded for non-payment of dues, 76. Number of [] making returns in the year 1866, 147; number of [] from which no returns were received, 11; number [] chartered by Grand [], Dec., 1866, 20; number [] at work, 178; gone out of existence, 82. No. [] formerly and at present at work, 260. Whole number of Masons returned, 9,667; number not returned (estimated by same ratio as those returned,) 725; estimated membership of [] working under Dispensation, 600. Total membership and resident Masons not members, 10,992.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence has a good report, in which much valuable information may be obtained.

Upon the whole, Masonry in North Carolina seems to be in a healthy and prosperous condition; and although the Grand Master

deplores great neglect of the "outer door," during the war, we feel confident of her entire success in the future, even to the moulding of the most crude material into good Masonic temper and form.

NEW YORK.

The Grand ☐ of New York met in annual session in New York city, on the 4th day of June, 1867, M.: W.: Grand Master Robert D. Holmes, presiding. As might have been expected, the attendance was large, and the deliberations marked by singular ability.

A marked feature in these Proceedings is a full account of the Masonic Fair, held in the city of New York, commencing on the 5th of Dec., 1866, and continuing until the 9th of January following. The object of the fair was to raise funds for the erection of a Masonic Hall and Asylum. The net proceeds amounted to the handsome sum of \$50,881.66. The fund for this noble purpose now amounts to \$204,552.18. May it go forward, and expand, until it shall become the glory of American Freemasonry.

The Committee on Correspondence, as usual, made a full and able report.

The returns, (one district having made no returns,) show a Masonic membership of 51,331.

We are sorry to observe that the Grand ☐ of Hamburg continues to sustain two of her Subordinate ☐ in New York without regard to territorial rights. The Grand Master says: "This evil has become chronic, and a source of annoyance. I have no advice to offer on the subject, former discussions having covered the whole ground."

OHIO.

This Grand ☐ met in Annual Communication on the 16th of October, 1866, in the city of Toledo. We observe that 235 ☐ were represented, and that the session continued during three days.

The Grand Master, in his address, calls especial attention to the deaths of three distinguished Past Grand Masters—Corwin, Hubbard and Cass, all of whom had been buried with distinguished honors. We regret to observe that the conduct of some of the Subordinate ☐ in the District of Columbia, before alluded to, has caused some feeling in Ohio. Grand Master Whiting, of D. C., having fully committed himself to the defence of his jurisdiction, in this respect, Ohio protests against the right of any ☐ or Grand ☐, to confer Degrees on any of her citizens without permission, and formally declares non-intercourse with all Masons thus made.

Ohio reports 323 Subordinate ☐, with 19,750 Masons, 2,600 of whom were made the past year.

OREGON.

From this jurisdiction we have nothing direct since 1861, when it met in Annual Communication at Salem. This was its eleventh annual session.

By reading the Foreign Correspondence of other Grand [] , we learn that this body met in Portland, on the 18th of June, 1866. Doubtless it met in June, 1867, but its Proceedings have, probably, not yet reached the Atlantic States. We observe that the controversy between Oregon and Washington Grand [] has been referred to R. W. Albert G. Mackey, and that he has decided in favor of the claims of Oregon. We conclude, hence, that the question is settled. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence is said to have presented an admirable report. For our brethren, so far in the west as almost to look into "the gates of the morning," we have good hope.

RHODE ISLAND.

Grand [] met in Annual Communication at Providence, May 21, 1866—nineteen [] being represented. The Grand Master being sick, sent his address, and G. S. W. Fildfield presided. The G. M. had some complaints against New York, of men rejected in Rhode Island having been made Masons in New York.

A Special Communication was also held on the 25th of June, for the purpose of completing some unfinished business of the regular session.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Grand [] met in Annual Session in Charleston, on the 25th of November, 1866, M. W. Grand Master Jas. L. Orr, presiding.

Thirty-eight Subordinate [] were represented, and the Grand [] was opened in ample form. The Grand Master's address was short, and full of living thought. One beautiful passage we beg leave to quote, not less for its intrinsic excellence and beauty than for its reference to our own jurisdiction :

Not being present at your last Annual Communication in Columbia, you authorized my installation as Grand Master, by M. W. Brother B. Rush Campbell, Past Grand Master, in any Subordinate [] , and at as early a period as suited our convenience.

No convenient occasion, however, arose, and after waiting until the first Monday in February, and finding that the accumulating business of the Grand [] required the qualification of the Grand Master, I was on that day installed by M. W. Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, Past Grand Master of the Grand [] of Minnesota, in Solomon's [] No. 1, in this city.

This ceremony was attended by brethren representing nearly every State in the Union—conducted by a worthy brother residing in the far West, and representing a people, who only a few brief months before, were arrayed in arms against our people, but who, as soon as the obligations and allegiance of the belligerents to their respective governments

permitted, united on a common altar, and cheerfully buried the animosities of the past in oblivion. No sooner was peace proclaimed, than our fraternal relations were re-established, and the harmony of our temple reconstructed without question, condition or amendments. The charity of Christian churches has not yet been found equal to the obliteration of the bitter dissensions in the past, and yet our brotherhood is firmly—gloriously re-established. Such is Masonry! May we prove worthy exemplars of an Institution which teaches such tenets as generously dispel from our bosoms all hate and malice against a brother.

There have been some signal illustrations of the complete restoration of fraternal relations among Masons in every section of the Union, and of the disposition of [] and brethren to alleviate the misfortunes which have overtaken us in various ways within the past few miserable years.

The Grand [] of the State of Pennsylvania, with a noble disinterestedness, responded to the appeal made by our brethren, Burns and Simms, acting under authority of my predecessor, and gave \$1,000 to this []. The donation was acknowledged by me, and a draft drawn in favor of Bro. Burns for the amount, on Bro. Williamson, Grand Treasurer of the Grand [] of Pennsylvania, and paid by him to your Grand Treasurer. I suggest that some action be taken by you in acknowledgment of our fraternal appreciation of this generous donation, and that the correspondence between M.: W.: Bro. Lucius H. Scott, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and myself, on the subject, be published with your Proceedings.

Some worthy brethren in Boston have presented a set of jewels to Orange [], No. 14, of this city; and a worthy brother in New York succeeded in obtaining there a Past Master's jewel, which had been abstracted, and restored it to Landmark [], No. 76, of this city, through Bro. Gurney. A brother in Syracuse, New York, has interested himself to recover the jewels of Claremont [], has supplied such as could not be recovered, and restored them. A brother from Illinois has also recovered and kindly restored the warrant of Constitution of Allen [], and several similar acts of kindness have been extended to the [] of the State, the details of which would not be of special interest.

Grand Secretary Mackey made a report on Foreign Correspondence, full of wisdom and Masonic lore. We are almost tempted to copy the whole of it; but we must be content with a few of his closing remarks: "In the darkest hour of the night which has just passed over us, the star of Masonry ever shone with 'purest ray serene.' In all the suffering and anguish and despair to which we have been subjected, Masonry was always present, with its help and support, for the wounded and the captive,—its arms of refuge for the widow and the orphan. Where there was the utmost darkness, there was its light. Where there was the deepest sorrow, there was its consolation. Where the cloud was blackest, there was its silver lining, to give, in the midst of the storm, the promise of a calm."

The calendar of South Carolina shows 77 Subordinate []. The number of Masons in the jurisdiction does not appear. The Grand Treasurer acknowledges the receipt of \$5,521.59 in the past year; and an expenditure of \$5,703.85, showing the treasury overdrawn by \$182.26.

TENNESSEE.

The Grand [] of Tennessee met in Annual session, at Nashville, on the third day of Dec., 1866, M.: W.: Deputy Grand Master

Slover, presiding. The attendance was large, and the Grand Master's address, sent up full of interest. We observe, in the course of the address, that he has been greatly pressed to depart from the Ancient Landmarks, in consenting to admit men who are physically disabled. The great number of worthy men who have been maimed and mutilated in the late war, have their many friends who are eager to do them honor; and this is creating a strong pressure on the barriers of Masonry. We are happy to see, however, that the laws of Masonry, in this respect, are being generally adhered to; and nowhere better than in Tennessee.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence made a very full report, in the course of which many practical questions were disposed of, or at least, treated with apparent wisdom and candor.

Its report on Foreign Correspondence is lengthy, and very full of interest, and takes a very respectful notice of Minnesota,—especially of her P. G. M. Prescott, whom Tennessee now holds, as her own, to our great regret.

Tennessee has 248 chartered ; has in the past year initiated 2,570; passed, 2,253; raised, 2,043; admitted, 665; dimitted, 845; suspended, 47, and expelled, 45; 167 have died, and her total number of Masons is 13,724. Her income, from all sources, in the past year, has been \$8,594.05.

We are glad to see that she is taking high moral ground, and setting her face firmly and decidedly against drunkenness, profanity, and the popular vices generally.

VIRGINIA.

This Grand  met in Annual session in the city of Richmond, on the 10th day of December 1866, Grand Master Lane presiding. All the Grand Officers were in attendance, and the representatives of 84 Subordinate , together with a large number of Past Masters and visiting brethren.

The Grand Master, in his address, calls attention to two difficulties,—one with the Grand  of the District of Columbia, and the other with that of West Virginia. The former arose out of an occupation of the city of Alexandria by the Grand  of the District during the war, that city being within the Federal lines. This was admitted by the Grand  of the District to be irregular, and excusable only on the ground of "military necessity;" and all the moneys collected for initiation fees, &c., were offered to be returned, or turned over to the Grand  of Virginia. This was understood to be accepted by Virginia; but in addition to this, she has now demanded that all who were made Masons at Alexandria, under the usurpation, shall submit to the process of *healing*, before they can

be acknowledged as Masons in good and regular standing in Virginia. Against this, the Grand ☐ of the District protests, taking the ground that her usurpation was a necessity, and therefore not wanting in the essential elements of validity.

This question is of some importance ; but as both parties are manifestly desirous of arriving at a correct result, we have no doubt that it may be amicably adjusted.

The controversy with West Virginia is very clearly stated by the Grand Master :

It will be remembered, that at our last Grand Annual Communication, your attention was called to the fact that a ☐ had been formed in what is called West Virginia, styling itself the "Grand ☐ of West Virginia." Action was taken by this Grand ☐ with reference thereto, but no conclusion arrived at, further than to refer the subject to a committee to report to this Communication. The committee will doubtless report during the present session. It is not my purpose to repeat what was said on a former occasion as to the legality of forming such a ☐, but to remind you that it is one of the questions which demands your careful consideration, and should be disposed of as soon as possible, that the status of certain ☐ may be determined, and their minds relieved of a very embarrassing and perplexing question. I have received a number of letters during the year from ☐ holding their charters from this Grand ☐, but located within the territorial limits of what is called West Virginia, desiring to be informed as to what course this Grand ☐ intended to pursue ; and in some instances respectfully insisting that under no circumstances should they be compelled to change their Grand ☐ association ; and, in a few instances, alleging that they preferred surrendering their charters to being transferred or compelled to hold them from the ☐ called the Grand ☐ of West Virginia. Under these circumstances, the question of recognizing the Grand ☐ of West Virginia as a legally constituted body, should receive at your hands a very patient and deliberate investigation, and should be acted on with great care, after a full examination of all the facts connected with the formation of that ☐.

This matter was reported on by the committee above referred to, and their report, which is exceedingly conciliatory in its temper, concludes with the following preamble and resolutions :

WHEREAS, This Grand ☐ has been informed that during the year 1864, representatives from nine ☐, located in that part of their jurisdiction known as West Virginia, assembled and organized a Grand ☐ ; and whereas, said Subordinate ☐ had not paid their dues to this Grand ☐, and notified their intention to withdraw and organize a Grand ☐ for themselves, as Masonic usage requires, thereby rebelling against rightful authority ; and whereas, this Grand ☐ has reason to believe that some of the ☐ in West Virginia had no part in that act, and are opposed to separation from the jurisdiction of the Grand ☐ ; and whereas, this Grand ☐, while earnestly and solemnly protesting against the legality and regularity of the act of the formation of said Grand ☐ of West Virginia, is willing, if possible, to be in peace and harmony with said Grand ☐ and exchange true fraternal relations,

Resolved, That this Grand ☐ is willing to recognize the Grand ☐ of West Virginia, whenever we shall be satisfied that a full majority of the thirty-three active ☐ of West Virginia, holding charters from this Grand ☐, shall desire to separate from us and unite with the Grand ☐ of West Virginia, and shall return their charters and pay up their dues to this Grand ☐ to December, 1865.

This we regard as reasonable, or at least amiable ; and while the

surrender of charters may be regarded as a hard exaction, we trust that West Virginia may regard it as consistent with Masonic honor, and in accordance with Masonic law.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we regret to observe, is not in very amiable mood towards the other jurisdictions. In sadness, we make the following extract from the report :

"These reports are so voluminous that we have by no means undertaken to read them through. Many of them are too large in size, and contain matter irrelevant to our Institution—indeed they are really *de omnibus rebus, et quibusdam aliis*. Politics, poetry, personal and sectional prejudices, with a small amount of Masonry sprinkled in to add a flavor, appear to constitute the mass of them. In them the Grand Masters and Committees on Foreign Correspondence, are simply ventilating their rhetoric, while resolving themselves into mutual admiration or crimination societies.

"The best of them, by far, and the one that we except from this sweeping censure, is that from Missouri ; and the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence from that Grand [], we are willing, in the main, to adopt. It is from the pen of Bro. George Frank Gouley, to whom we extend a cordial greeting, while rendering most hearty thanks for the pleasure that his lively pages have afforded us. From him we shall make large quotations, because he has so well expressed what we had ourselves intended to have said.

"The reports from California and Vermont range next in merit, and have been perused by us with both pleasure and advantage."

We have read most of these reports, and we confess that we have found no occasion for "this sweeping censure." Of course, literary excellence is seldom found or expected, in such reports.

As we understand her calendar, Virginia has 176 working []. Her number of Masons does not appear in summary, or in such form as to enable us to arrive at them without much trouble. Her Grand Treasurer acknowledges the receipt of \$3,416.75, in the form of dues ; and his books show a balance still due the Grand [] of \$2,283.75.

WEST VIRGINIA.

We have before us, the Proceedings of this jurisdiction for 1865, 1866, and 1867, bound in one large pamphlet.

As the history of this Grand [] may be a matter of some general interest, we quote the introduction entire :

INTRODUCTION.

In June, 1862, the State of West Virginia was formally recognized by the Government of the United States, as a separate and independent State.

For nearly three years previous to this event, all communication between most of the Subordinate [] in West Virginia and the Grand [] of Virginia, had been suspended. During this time many of these [] had ceased to work. The disturbed condition of affairs, growing out of the civil war, rendered it improper, and in some instances, impossible for them to hold meetings. It became necessary, in some cases, to remove furniture, jewels, charters, &c. In some instances these were mislaid, lost or destroyed.

Gradually the tide of civil war was transferred to the extreme border ; and large districts of the new State were restored to comparative tran-

quility. In these districts the brethren were anxious to resume their Masonic relations and labors. In several instances they found themselves unable to do so without the aid of authority, to be obtained only from a G. L. O. The working [] themselves, began to realize very sensibly the want of the authority and discipline of such an organization.

Under the pressure of such circumstances, was discussed the organization of the Grand [] of West Virginia. Correspondence upon the subject was held with eminent brethren in other States. Their responses, without exception, were in approval of the movement. It was encouraged as eminently proper and necessary under the circumstances, and clearly in accordance with Masonic usage.

In response to a circular addressed by Fairmount [], No 9, to the [] in West Virginia, a convention was held at Grafton, on the 28th day of December, 1863. This convention met during a period of great excitement, occasioned by events of the war, which prevented the attendance of delegates from some parts of the State. Although more than a constitutional number of [] were represented, it was thought best to adjourn the convention to meet in Fairmount, on the 22d day of February, 1864.

At the second convention there was an increased attendance. A still larger representation of the working [] of the State was greatly desired, and it was again decided to postpone immediate organization. The convention adjourned to meet in Fairmount, on the 24th of June, 1864.

Pursuant to order of adjournment, the convention again assembled on the 24th of June. Eight working [] were represented. An election of Grand Officers was held, and a day fixed for their installment. The convention then adjourned.

The Grand Officers elect, before the time fixed for the installment had arrived, claimed that there was informality in the Proceedings of the convention which elected them, rendering its action illegal. They therefore declined to be installed.

Fairmount [] No. 9, then addressed the following circular to the Subordinate [] throughout the State:

At a semi-monthly communication of Fairmount [] No. 9, of Free and Accepted Masons, began and held at their hall in Fairmount, on Monday evening, the 5th of December, A. L. 5864, A. D. 1864, upon motion made and seconded, the following preamble and resolution were adopted, to wit:

Whereas, This [] is informed by its Committee of Correspondence—Brother Boyd—that after he had procured a proper person to install the Grand Officers elect of the Grand [] of West Virginia, he notified the G. L. M. and G. L. S. elect, of the time and place appointed for said installation, and requested the Grand Secretary to notify the [] within the bounds of said State to send proxies to the installation; and whereas, the said Grand Master and Grand Secretary elect, have declined to act, from the fact, as they say, that the adjournment of the convention *sine die* was irregular, and, therefore, the whole proceeding of the body was null and void; and whereas, this [] was the first to take action upon the organization of a Grand [] in West Virginia, and still believing that it is for the good of the Craft that a Grand [] be organized, therefore,

Resolved, That Brothers F. J. Fleming, C. A. Swearingen and John N. Boyd, be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to draft a suitable address to all the working [] within the bounds of this State, and to such brethren late of the [] not working, setting forth the necessity and propriety of organizing a Grand [] in West Virginia, and inviting and urging them to appoint delegates to a convention to be held at Fairmount, on the — day of —, 1865, and report to this [] at the earliest practicable time.

A Copy—Teste:

C. A. SWEARINGEN, Sec'y.

BRETHREN:—In again inviting you to assemble in convention for the purpose of organizing a Grand [] of the State of West Virginia, we feel that it is unnecessary for us to argue at length the *right* or *expediency* of Subordinate [] of this State to establish a Grand [], as the fact that we

live under what is beyond all doubt a *de facto* State government, determines, according to the usages of the Order, the legality of such a proceeding; and your own experience, since communication with the Grand ☐ of Virginia has been destroyed, must have convinced you of the necessity of a Grand ☐.

We, therefore, respectfully and earnestly invite you to send regularly appointed delegates to a convention to be held in Fairmount, on Wednesday evening, April 12th, 1865, for the purpose of electing officers of a Grand ☐. It is hoped that every working ☐ in the State will be represented. It is also hoped that brethren belonging to ☐ not native, will attend.

Brethren, please give the matter early attention in your ☐, and let us meet and consummate the work before us in the spirit of brotherly love and affection.

F. J. FLEMING, W. M.
C. A. SWEARINGEN, Sec'y.
J. N. BOYD.

Fairmount, February 21st, 1865.

On the 12th of April, 1865, a convention was held at Fairmount, where it was resolved to proceed with an organization; and Grand officers were elected accordingly; after which the convention adjourned, to meet at Wheeling, on the 10th of May, 1865.

This convention was larger than the former, having the representatives of nine ☐, while the previous one had but eight. At the close of this convention, the officers elect were installed by M. W. Bro. Thrall, of Ohio, who delivered a handsome address on the occasion.

On the same day the Grand ☐ was opened in due and ancient form, M. W. William I. Bates, presiding. Nine ☐ were represented, and the Grand Master delivered a stirring address. After transacting much important business, the Grand ☐ adjourned to the third Wednesday in January, 1866.

On the 4th of July, 1865, a Special Communication was held at Wheeling, for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of the Soldiers' Monument.

On the 17th of January, 1866, the Grand ☐ met at Wheeling. The Grand Master delivered an address of great interest; and fourteen ☐ were represented. This was the first Annual Communication of the Grand ☐ of West Virginia. It continued in session three days, and transacted the usual business of Grand ☐.

On the third of July, a Special Communication was held at Wheeling; another on the 17th of August, and still another on the 18th of December—all for laying corner-stones and dedicating public buildings.

The second Annual Communication was held at Wheeling, on the 22d day of January, 1867, M. W. Grand Master Bates still presiding. Eighteen Subordinate ☐ were represented, and the session was prolonged three days.

The jurisdiction had 21 Subordinate [] , including 1,061 Masons. In the past year, these had initiated 259 ; passed 234 ; raised 193 ; rejected 76 ; suspended 80 ; expelled 1 ; reinstated 18 ; dimitted 48, and buried 12, and the Treasurer had received dues, \$1,764.35.

There are yet a few [] in West Virginia which have not recognized the jurisdiction of the new Grand [] , and still adhere to that of Virginia. These are affectionately called on, by resolution, to report to the new jurisdiction, at its next Annual Communication.

CANADA.

The Grand [] of Canada held its Annual Communication at the city of Montreal, on the 11th of July, 1866, Grand Master Simpson on the throne.

The address of the Grand Master was lengthy, and very able. We are happy to see, in all the Proceedings, the spirit of the English Fathers, and an inflexible devotion to the ancient Constitutions, so far as we understand them. The usual business was transacted. We find 170 working [] , reported for the past year ; 833 initiations ; 827 passings ; 683 raisings ; 266 joinings ; 452 withdrawals ; 68 deaths ; 230 suspensions ; 3 expulsions ; 54 restorations, and a total membership of 6,263. The receipts from Subordinate [] for the year 1865, were \$6,650.24 ; and on the 30th of June, 1866, there was a balance in the Treasurer's hands of \$1,225.70.

We are happy to reach our hands across the Great Lakes, and greet our Canadian brethren ; and though we be "small among the thousands of Israel," we trust they will not despise us for our infancy, but cordially extend to us the fraternal grip, and own us, as members of the common household of faith.

From several of the jurisdictions we have no reports, their Proceedings not having reached us. Has our youth, our smallness, or our remoteness, caused us to be overlooked ? To all who have failed to send us their transactions, we beg leave to say, in fraternal kindness, *brethren, we have mail facilities in Minnesota.*

The shortness of time, since entering on our work, has also compelled us to ignore nearly all questions of Masonic law, which have presented themselves in the various Proceedings. Not having time to give them thorough consideration, we have preferred not to take notice of them at all, believing that entire silence was better than immature judgment. Hence we have purposely confined ourselves almost entirely to the simple record of such facts as are most prominent—statistics, &c.

Altogether, the prospects of our beloved Order were never more

flattering than now. Amid the strife of political factions, and the general upheavals of society, for the last few years, there has come to be a deep and earnest feeling of the need of rest—some quiet sanctuary where escape may be found from the tempests that rage around—and this is causing thousands to throng our gates and seek our altars. We cannot fail to realize the danger in such movements, and the possibility of *dilution* by excessive numbers. Against this danger, however, we hold the key, and if we are only faithful to ourselves and our principles, we have nothing to fear. Moreover, "Forewarned is forearmed;" and the notes of salutary warning are already heard from every quarter throughout our land.

Since the Anti-Mason commotions, within the recollection of many of us, we realize that a mighty change has taken place; and of Masonry, it may now be truly said:

"As some tall cliff, that rears its awful form,
Swells from the vale, and midway leaves the storm;
Though round its breast, the rolling clouds are spread,
Eternal sunshine settles on its head."

S. Y. McMASTERS, *Chairman.*

